

Index

Sn	Particulars of Document	Page No. of Part to which it belongs		Remarks
		Part I	Part II	
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)
1.	Court Fees	A		
2.	Listing Proforma	A1 - A2	A1 - A2	
3.	Cover Page of Paper Book		A3	
4.	Index of Record of Proceeding		A4	
5.	Limitation Report prepared by the Registry		A5	
6.	Defect List		A6	
7.	Note Sheet		A7	
8.	Synopsis and List of Dates	B – C		
9.	Writ Petition with Affidavit	1 – 54		
10.	Appendix	55		

11.	Annexure P1: True copy of the transcript of Mr Harsh Mander's video on the plight of workers, homeless people and other affected persons in Delhi as on 27-28.03.2020	56 – 64		
12.	Annexure P2: True copy of the fact-finding report about the current situation in Maharashtra dated 29.03.2020	65 – 73		
13.	Annexure P3: True copy of the fact-finding report about the current situation in Bihar dated 29.03.2020	74 – 92		
14.	Annexure P4: True copy of the fact-finding report about the current situation in Uttarakhand dated 29.03.2020	93 – 100		
15.	Annexure P5: True copy of the fact-finding report about the current situation in Madhya Pradesh dated 29.03.2020	101 – 118		
16.	Annexure P6: True copy of the	119 – 125		

	fact-finding report about the current situation in Uttar Pradesh dated 29.03.2020			
17.	Annexure P7: True copy of the fact-finding report about the current situation in Nagaland dated 29.03.2020	126 – 135		
18.	Annexure P8: True copy of the relief package issued by the Central Government dated 26.03.2020	136 – 141		
19.	Annexure P9: True copy of the critique of the inadequacy and the incompleteness of this Relief package have been made by Mr. Nikhil Dey and other social activists.	142 – 148		
20.	Annexure P10: True copy of the statement of the Right to Food Campaign dated 27.03.2020	149 – 156		
21.	Application seeking exemption from filing the official	157 – 158		

	Translation of Annexure P1 - P10			
22.	F/M	159		
23.	Vakalatnama	160		

Proforma For First Listing

Section _____

The case pertains to (Please tick/check the correct box):

- ☐ Central Act: (Title) Constitution of India
- ☐ Section(s): Article 21
- ☐ Central rule: (Title) NA
- ☐ Rule No.(s): NA
- ☐ State Act (Title) NA
- ☐ Section: NA
- ☐ State Rule: NA
- ☐ Rule No(s): NA
- ☐ Impugned Interim Order: (Date): NA
- ☐ Impugned Final Order/Decree: (Date): NA
- ☐ High Court: N.A.
- ☐ Name of Judges: N.A.
- ☐ Tribunal/Authority: (Name) NA

1. Name of matter: Civil Criminal

2. (a)Petitioner/Appellant: Swami Agnivesh

(b)E-mail ID:

(c) Mobile Phone Number:

3. (a) Respondent no. 1: Union of India

(b) E-mail ID: NA

(c) Mobile Phone Number: NA

4. (a) Main category classification: NA (b) Sub classification: NA

5. Not to be listed before: NA

6. (a) Similar disposed of matter with citation, if any & case details: NA

(b) Similar pending matter with case details: NA

7. Criminal Matters:

a. Whether accused/convict has surrendered: N.A

b. FIR No. N.A. Date: N.A. c. Police Station:

d. Sentence Awarded: NA

e. Period of sentence Undergone including period of detention/custody undergone: N.A

8. Land Acquisition Matters:

(a) Date of Section 4 notification: _____N.A._____

(b) Date of Section 6 notification: _____N.A._____

(c) Date of Section 17 notification: _____N.A._____

9. Tax Matters: State the tax effect: _____N.A._____

10. Special Category (first petitioner/appellant only):

☐ Senior Citizen>65yrs; ☐ SC/ST; ☐ Woman/Child;

☐ Disabled; ☐ Legal Aid case; ☐ In custody

11. Vehicle Number (in case of Motor Accident Claim matters): NA

Date:

Satya Mitra

AOR for Petitioner(s)/Appellant(s)

Registration No. 1852

Email: satyamitra2003@yahoo.co.in

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

CIVIL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION

Writ Petition (Civil)_____of 2020

(Under Article 32 of the Constitution of India)

In the matter of:

Swami Agnivesh & Anr

...Petitioners

Versus

Union of India & Ors

...Respondents

Paper Book

(FOR INDEX KINDLY SEE INSIDE)

I A: _____of 2020: Application seeking exemption from filing
official Translation of Annexures P-1

Filed on:

ADVOCATE FOR PETITIONER: SATYA MITRA

Index of Record of Proceedings

Sn	Particulars	Pages
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		
13.		
14.		
15.		
16.		
17.		

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

CIVIL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION

Writ Petition (Civil)_____of 2020

(Under Article 32 of the Constitution of India)

In the matter of:

Swami Agnivesh & Anr

...Petitioner

Versus

Union of India & Ors

...Respondents

Office Report on Limitation

1. The petition is/are within time.
2. There is delay of ____ days in refilling the petition and petition for condonation of days delay in refilling has been filed

BRANCH OFFICER

New Delhi

Dated: 2020

Synopsis

1. This petition is filed in public interest praying for immediate relief to the poor, informal sector workers, slum dwellers, homeless persons and economically weaker sections in the rural areas and urban slum areas who are in the present situation of the spread of Corona Virus living with hunger, many of whom- men, women and children- may die of starvation in the coming days if they do not get emergency food, medical aid and shelter immediately.
2. The Lockdown announced on 24.03.2020 by the Government made hardly any meaningful provisions for providing on a large scale basic humanitarian aid and emergency services for the poor, particularly as all employment came to an end, wages were stopped, access to medical services were restricted on account of severe transportation closures. In short the working people were left to starve. Many more times than the deaths due to the virus will be the deaths caused by the starvation of men, women and children. A severe humanitarian crisis is unfolding as workers are stranded without any food, shelter or means to go back home.
3. The central as well as various state governments have announced relief packages but the feedback from the ground is that these relief measures remain mainly on paper. The reports of deaths of migrant workers and failure of delivery of essential services are very serious. Most of the government departments are not functional. It is perhaps fear of the virus that is keeping

government workers away from work but this inexcusable and shameful in the present situation.

4. Hence this petition.

List of Dates and Events

Dates	Events
24.3.2019	: The Government of India announced for a complete lockdown for 21 days was announced by the restricting the movement and employment of people in the country
25.03.2020	: The said lockdown was announced without providing to any meaningful provisions including humanitarian aid,
29.03.2020	emergency services for the poor etc., resulting in hardship for millions of vulnerable people including the daily wage labourers.

Hence this petition.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

CIVIL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION

Writ Petition (Civil)_____of 2020

(Under Article 32 of the Constitution of India)

In the matter of:

- | | | |
|----|---|------------|
| 1. | Swami Agnivesh | Petitioner |
| | President | No.1 |
| | Bandhua Mukti Morcha | |
| | At 7, Jantar Mantar Road | |
| | New Delhi-110001 | |
| 2. | Nirmal Gorana Convenor | Petitioner |
| | National Campaign Committee for Eradication for | No.2 |
| | Bonded Labour (NCCEBL) at 243, Nai Market | |
| | Road, Badarpur, | |
| | New Delhi- 110041 | |

Versus

- | | | |
|----|--|------------|
| 1. | Union of India | Respondent |
| | Through the Secretary, Ministry of Health and | No. 1 |
| | Family Welfare, Room No. 348; 'A' Wing, Nirman | |
| | Bhavan, New Delhi-110011 | |
| 2. | Govt. of NCT of Delhi | Respondent |
| | Through the Chief Secretary, Govt. of NCT of | No 2 |

Delhi, Delhi Secretariat, New Delhi

- | | | |
|----|--|------------|
| 3. | State of Uttar Pradesh | Respondent |
| | Through the Chief Secretary, Krishi Bhawan,
Madan Mohan Malviya Marg Lucknow-226001. | No. 3 |
| 4. | State of Haryana | Respondent |
| | Through the Chief Secretary, Government of
Haryana, Chandigarh-160001 | No. 4 |
| 5. | State of Maharashtra | Respondent |
| | Through the Chief Secretary, Government of
Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Mumbai-400032 | No. 5 |
| 6. | State of Assam | Respondent |
| | Through the Chief Secretary, Government of
Assam, P.O. Assam Sachivalaya, Guwahati 781006 | No. 6 |
| 7. | State of Meghalaya | Respondent |
| | Through the Chief Secretary, Government of
Meghalaya, Shillong-793001 | No. 7 |
| 8. | State of Bihar | Respondent |
| | Through the Chief Secretary, Government of
Bihar, Main Secretariat Building, Patna-800015 | No. 8 |
| 9. | State of Gujarat | Respondent |
| | Through the Chief Secretary, Government of
Gujarat, Block No. 1, 5th Floor, Sardar Bhawan,
Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar-382010 | No. 9 |

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 10. State of J&K | Respondent |
| Through the Chief Secretary, Government of
Jammu & Kashmir, Shrinagar-190001 | No. 10 |
| 11. State of Andhra Pradesh | Respondent |
| Through the Chief Secretary, AP Secretariat Office,
Velagapudi | No.11 |
| 12. State of Chhattisgarh | Respondent |
| Through the Chief Secretary, Government of
Chhattisgarh, Mahanadi Bhawan, Mantralaya,
Naya Raipur-492002 | No. 12 |
| 13. State of Arunachal Pradesh | Respondent |
| Through the Chief Secretary, Government of
Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar-791111 | No.13 |
| 14. State of Madhya Pradesh | Respondent |
| Through the Chief Secretary, Government of
Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal-462004 | No. 14 |
| 15. State of Odisha | Respondent |
| Through the Chief Secretary, Government of
Odisha, Bhubaneswar-795001 | No. 15 |
| 16. State of Himachal Pradesh | Respondent |
| Through the Chief Secretary, Government of
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171002 | No. 16 |
| 17. State of Manipur | Respondent |

	Through the Chief Secretary, Government of Manipur, Old Secretariat, Bapupara, Imphal-795001	No. 17
18. State of Mizoram		Respondent
	Through the Chief Secretary, Government of Mizoram, Aizawl-796001	No. 18
19. State of Nagaland		Respondent
	Through the Chief Secretary, Government of Nagaland, Kohima – 797001	No. 19
20. State of Punjab		Respondent
	Through the Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab, Chandigarh-160001	No. 20
21. State of Rajasthan		Respondent
	Through the Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur-302005	No. 21
22. State of Sikkim		Respondent
	Through the Chief Secretary, Government of Sikkim, New Secretariat, Development Area, Gangtok-737101	No. 22
23. State of Tamil Nadu		Respondent
	Through the Chief Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu, Chennai 600009	No. 23
24. State of Tripura		Respondent

	Through the Chief Secretary, Government of Tripura, New Secretariat Complex, Agartala-799011.	No. 24
25.	State of Uttarakhand	Respondent
	Through the Chief Secretary, Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun-248001.	No. 25
26.	State of West Bengal	Respondent
	Through the Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal, Kolkata-700001.	No. 26
27.	State of Kerala	Respondent
	Through the Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram-695001	No. 27
28.	State of Jharkhand	Respondent
	Through the Chief Secretary, 1st Floor, Project Building, Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand 834004	No. 28
29.	Union Territory of Goa	Respondent
	Through the Chief Secretary, Government of Goa Secretariat, Porvorium-403521	No. 29
30.	Union Territory of Chandigarh	Respondent
	Through the Chief Secretary, 4th floor, Haryana Civil Secretariat, Chandigarh	No. 30

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 31. Union Territory of Puducherry | Respondent |
| Through the Chief Secretary Govt. of Puducherry,
Chief Secretariat, Goubert Avenue
PUDHUCHERRY- 605001 | No. 31 |
| 32. Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands | Respondent |
| Through the Chief Secretary, Andaman & Nicobar
Administration Secretariat, Port Blair. | No. 32 |
| 33. Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli | Respondent |
| Through its Administrator

Govt. of Dadra & Nagar Haveli,

U.T., Secretariat, Silvassa,

Nagar Haveli-396230 | No. 33 |
| 34. Union Territory of Daman & Diu | Respondent |
| Through the Chief Secretary

UT of Daman & Diu, Daman | No. 34 |
| 35. Union Territory of Lakshadweep | Respondent |
| Through the Chief Secretary

UT of Lakshadweep Secretariat, Kavaratti 682555 | No. 35 |
| 36. State of Telangana | Respondent |
| Through the Chief Secretary

Basheerbagh, Hyderabad | No. 36 |
| 37. State of Karnataka | Respondent |
| Through the Chief Secretary, Room No.222, II | |

Floor, Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore- 560001

No. 37

TO:

THE HONOURABLE CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA

AND HIS LORDSHIPS COMPANION JUDGES

OF THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF
THE PETITIONER ABOVE NAMED.

Writ Petition under Article 32 of the Constitution of India, 1950

1. This petition is filed in public interest praying for immediate relief to the poor, informal sector workers, slum dwellers, homeless persons and economically weaker sections in the rural areas and those residing in slums who are in the present situation of the spread of Corona Virus living with hunger, many of whom- men, women and children- may die of starvation in the coming days if they do not get emergency food, medical aid and shelter immediately.
2. Petitioner No. 1 is well known social reformer who has a dedicated team of social activists spread out across the country. These activists have been reporting to the petitioner about the situation of the poor and the lack/inadequacy of basic survival measures being taken by the respondent governments. Petitioner No. 2 similarly has a network of labour activists throughout India and has collected information from them regarding the woeful inadequacy of emergency measures. Hence

this Petition seeks emergency relief for the poor across India. Both Petitioner No. 1 and Petitioner No. 2 are filing this Writ Petition in the Public interest and have no personal interest in filing of the present petition. There are no civil or criminal cases pending against the petitioners which would have any legal nexus with the issues involved in the present Public Interest Litigation.

3. The Respondent No 1 is Union of India, through the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare who are responsible for providing proper health and sanitation facilities to the citizens amid coronavirus pandemic, further, responsible for distribution of subsidised food grains under the Public Distribution System to the poor and underprivileged. Respondent no 2. to 37 are the State and Union Territories who are responsible for providing all the essential services during the Coronavirus pandemic lockdown including food, sanitation and health care.

Facts

4. On 24.3.2019, a complete lockdown for 21 days was announced by the Central government restricting the movement and employment of people in the country. This Lockdown made hardly any meaningful provisions for providing on a large scale basic humanitarian aid and emergency services for the poor, particularly as all employment came to an end, wages were stopped, access to medical services were restricted on account

of severe transportation closures. In short the working people were left to starve. Many more times than the deaths due to the virus will be the deaths caused by starvation of men, women and children. A severe humanitarian crisis is unfolding as workers are stranded without any food, shelter or means to go back home.

5. The central as well as various state governments have announced relief packages but the feedback from the ground is that these relief measures remain mainly on paper. Government staffs throughout the country at all levels have abdicated their duty and are not working on the ground. It is perhaps fear of the virus that is keeping government workers away from work but this inexcusable and shameful in the present situation.

SITUATION IN DELHI AS ON 29.03.2020

6. Petitioners activists on the ground report that in Delhi for the last few days thousands of workers have begun walking from different parts of the Delhi to the U.P border area at Noida, the Ghaziabad border area and Faridabad bordering Haryana. The activists witnessed on 27-28th March the pitiable situation in these three areas. No where could feeding Centres be seen. Men, Women and Children were walking for days. Not even drinking water was available on the way. In the existing Shelter Homes hundreds if not thousands of people gathered in the hope of finding food and water. But these homes that have the

capacity to feed a maximum of 100 people were not in a position to feed the masses that has gathered. The poor remain unaware about these so called feeding centres were. For example, in Bhagirathi Vihar, Johripur and Gokulpuri, feeding centres were started by the government but the act visits who went there found that people remained unaware of these centres. Moreover they were far away from the slum area where people were on the verge of starvation. These places did not have any shelter. Moreover, the quantity of the food was inadequate for the vast slum area. Persons going to these centres for food were brutally beaten by the police.

7. In the slum areas the situation is dire. The ration shops are opening very infrequently. People are without work or wages. The slum areas need many feeding centres to be opened to avoid starvation. The Petitioners have collected list of around 300 people in Delhi and about 2500 from other parts of the country, who are daily wagers without ration cards at the verge of starvation. They are currently sitting in the open and in huts at Okhla, Badarpur, Outram Line, Prahaladpur, Nangloi, Kotla Mubarakpur, Kapasheda, Munirka, Baljit Nagar, Patel nagar, Subhash Camp, Copernicus Marg and other places. Petitioners will provide this list separately with this Petition for the sake of brevity.
8. Harsh Mander has made two videos on the plight of workers, homeless people and other affected persons in Delhi as on 27-

28th March. The full transcript of the videos is at Annexure P-1 at page 56 to 64. In the video the people interviewed are all workers who have been removed from their employment and complained that they have not eaten for four days and the government facilities are just not available. On the rare occasion when some private van turns up with food it is only for few people and very small quantities. These videos show that the government promise of food etc is utterly false.

9. Delhi Government has released a list of 334 feeding centres. But the information from the ground is that in reality very few of the persons going without food for days are actually getting food. Given below is the highlight of the reports appearing the national news papers:

Date	Article	Particulars
29.3.2020	New York Times <i>"India's Coronavirus Lockdown Leaves Vast Numbers of Migrants Stranded"</i>	• Hundreds of thousands of migrant workers have been rendered homeless and jobless. • Thousands of migrants started walking back to the hometowns, hundreds of miles away, and were beaten up by the Delhi Police at the borders. • Many of them live where they work, at shops and construction

		sites, with their employers providing meals. As businesses closed because of the lockdown, hundreds of thousands if not millions of people across India lost their only home and regular source of food.
28.3.2020	BBC News <i>"Coronavirus lockdown in India: 'Beaten and abused for doing my job'"</i>	• Vegetable vender verbally and physically abused by police officers in Noida on 24.3.2020. He was beaten repeatedly with a baton and was struggling to even sit four days later. • Apart from police officers, vegetable venders also face harassment from RWAs and other NGOs that look after upkeep of neighborhoods. • Break in supply of vegetables will affect all citizens and make it difficult for them to stay indoors as they will venture out to buy vegetables, fruits, bread, milk, grains, etc.

		• Delivery executives of App-based delivery services offering essential goods beaten up and harassed by police personnel. • Dairy-and-produce delivery app Milk Basket said it was forced to dump 15,000 litres of milk and 10,000 kg of vegetables on Monday as its "staff, vendors and vehicles [were] being pushed back from the roads by local police".
28.3.2020	Al Jazeera <i>"Coronavirus lockdown: India grapples with migrant workers' exodus"</i>	• Thousands flee New Delhi as the 21-day lockdown effectively puts workers living off daily earnings out of work.
27.3.2020	Human Rights Watch <i>"India: COVID-19 Lockdown"</i>	• The lockdown has already disproportionately hurt marginalized communities due to loss of livelihood and lack of food, shelter, health, and other basic

	<i>Puts Poor at Risk”</i>	needs. The government does have a responsibility to protect the health and well-being of the population, but some of these steps have left <u>tens of thousands of out-of-work migrant workers stranded</u>, with rail and bus services shut down. The blanket closing of state borders have caused <u>disruption in the supply of essential goods</u>, leading to inflation and fear of shortages. Thousands of <u>homeless people</u> are in need of protection. Police actions to punish those violating orders have <u>reportedly</u> resulted in abuses against people in need. • The government should not use Aadhaar (identity card)-based biometric authentication for the distribution of free food grains to the poor, Human Rights Watch said. Even in normal
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		circumstances, failure of <u>Aadhar</u> has led to <u>denial</u> of essential services and benefits. In Delhi, <u>Muslims displaced by the communal violence</u> in February urgently need relief, compensation and shelter.
26.3.2020	Live Mint <i>"As buyers scramble for supplies, vegetables rot in India's biggest 'mandi'"</i>	• Truckloads of green vegetables are rotting in Delhi's Azadpur wholesale market. • At least 70 trucks of green vegetables each weighing 15 tonnes are rotting since retailers and shopkeepers are unable to reach the market • By this weekend, fruits may vanish from stores in Delhi
26.3.2020	Los Angeles Times <i>"For many in India, the biggest concern isn't coronavirus."</i>	• In New Delhi, thousands of stranded workers were crowding into shelters or gathering in public spaces where the municipal government or aid groups were serving plates of rice and dal from giant barrels.

	<i>It's hunger"</i>	
25.3.2020	The Telegraph <i>"Cops beat up people out to buy, sell food"</i>	• Allegations that Delhi police personnel have been behaving like "goons" and "terrorising" people in the name of enforcing the Covid-19 lockdown, harassing even those who had stepped out to buy essential items exempt from prohibitory orders in force. • Others alleged that some cops raided a market and beat up vegetable sellers and grocery store owners. • A journalist was harassed by the Police while he was on his way to his Noida office from his southwest Delhi home in Vasant Kunj. The police stopped his car and beat him up when he confronted them and later snatched his phone and wallet.

SITUATION IN MANIPUR AS ON 29.3.2020

10. It was reported by Advocates from Imphal and Senapati that: HIV and ART medicines are not available for HIV positive persons. Essential medicines for diabetes and blood pressure are not available. Most pharmacies and stockist are closed.
11. All the Public Hospitals have closed their OPD's and are not admitting new patients. Most Private Hospitals have closed down after the Lock Down.
12. Police are mercilessly beating up people particularly poor people who they find in the road even if they are seeking groceries and medicines and are in distress.
13. Hospital Staff are often not attending.
14. Permissions to approach the HC / Authorities is very difficult to get as getting out of the house itself is a herculean task. Access to justice is curtailed. Movement in genuine cases of medical emergencies almost impossible.
15. Public spirited Advocates ask for passes to be issued on the recommendation of the High Court's/ Session Court to facilitates PILs in emergency matters and access to justice.
16. Police brutalities against the people stepping outside their house to buy essential commodities are also prevalent in various parts of Manipur.

SITUATION IN CHHATTISGARH AS ON 29.03.2020

17. The Right to Food Campaign filed an urgent PIL at the Chhattisgarh High Court being W.P. PIL (filing number) 5748 of 2020, seeking the following reliefs:
- i. Payment of Rs 3000/- per month to all workers including construction workers, daily wage workers, street vendors.
 - ii. To increase the social security pension.
 - iii. To start work for MNREGA workers.
 - iv. To keep the ration shops open and immediately provide ration for three months at a time and to double the entitlement.
 - v. To run community kitchens at specified places.
 - vi. To shelter homeless person in government buildings and elsewhere.
 - vii. To re-start public transportation for those requiring medical treatment.
 - viii. To publicize entitlement so that people become aware.
18. The Writ Petition (PIL) 5748/2020 titled Right to Food Campaign Chhattisgarh & Ors. v State of Chattisgarh & Ors. was filed before the High Court on 23.3.2020 others but has not been heard till date as the High Court is closed. Emergency hearings are provided for but in practice this is not happening.

SITUATION IN MAHARASHTRA AS ON 29.03.2020

19. It is estimated that 41% out of the total population in Mumbai reside in numerous slums scattered across the city. These slum dwellers have been rendered without work due to the spike in COVID-19 cases in the city in a state which currently holds in baton with the highest number of reported cases at 186 as on 29.03.2020 in the country, despite the current efforts put in place by the State the number is only expected to increase.
20. Homelessness - Despite the lockdown imposed till 31.03.2020, there is a backlog of cases pending before slum authorities pertaining to transit or alternate accomodation under the Slum Act, 1974 and DCR, 1991 and 2011. Many of these slum dwellers have already faced eviction and demolition which have rendered them homeless and several others are impending demolition.
21. The city of Mumbai also houses an increasing population of homeless persons. As per a survey conducted in 2011 around 2,00,000 homeless persons reside in the city of Mumbai. This slum population also includes elderly, women and children. Furthermore, this faction of the population has no access to any healthcare services which makes them highly susceptible to infectious diseases ie COVID-19.
22. Migrant Workers - Many travelling from urban areas like Mumbai and Pune to their hometowns in the neighbouring states. As all modes of transportation have suspended, many are forced to

travel on foot or in goods vehicles like trucks and tempos with many other people in cramped conditions.

23. As the borders of districts and states have been sealed, many are being stopped by the local administrations at these points, leaving them stranded, in many cases without provision of food or shelter. Many are being forced to walk back from where they came. Some migrant labourers are being arrested while trying to cross state/ district borders. The Telangana Maharashtra border has seen the most number of such cases.
24. Lack of access to food -With most slum dwellers, migrant workers and the homeless population losing their daily wages, it is being reported from many parts of the state that a major population is unable to procure ration supplies for their homes.
25. Meanwhile, while the State Government has announced an increase in monthly quota through the Public Distribution Scheme, it remains the need of the hour to supply daily food packets or monthly ration to the population of daily wage labourers and homeless population on any identity proof.
26. Police Violence -Police violence is being reported across the state in various forms like beating, charging with batons, made to crawl, frog jump etc. Most of this is unleashed without assessing and realising the genuine concerns and need of people to step out, or their medical conditions, if any.
27. Police in Maharashtra allegedly beat homeless people to evict them from streets. Police have targeted daily wage workers,

such as vegetable and fruit vendors, milk sellers, auto rickshaw and taxi drivers, and others delivering essential goods. Police have also allegedly harassed doctors and health workers.

28. An ambulance driver on 27.10.2020 was reportedly hit by the Policemen and he later succumbed to the injury. An DCP rank officer level enquiry has been ordered into the said matter.
29. The copy of the status report prepared by lawyers and social activists from Mumbai is annexed herewith as Annexure P-2 at page 65 to 74.

SITUATION IN BIHAR

30. The following table illustrates the current situation in Bihar as on 29.03.2020:

1. Suffering of the people

S.No	Ground Reality	Publication/ Source	Date	Comment
1.	Vehicle carrying essential commodities are stopped by police and	Times of India	27.03.2020	Three police constables were arrested on Thursday on charges of opening fire at the driver of mini truck in Danapur locality after he refused to give them Rs. 5,000 as bribe to allow the

	local authorities			potato laden vehicle cross the pontoon bridge over the Ganga
2.	No awareness about the relief packages by the Government	Personal Testimony	29.03.2020	Many people living in the slum areas are unaware about the relief packages being announced by the Government. Further, the question of accessibility is the main concern. Ms Sushila, resident of Anisabd, Patna, who was working as house help is in a complete state of panic and trauma. She doesn't have any idea how to avail such facilities extended by the government. As she doesn't have a ration card she is disqualified from availing free ration benefits extended by the State Government to the Ration

				Card holders only.
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2. Hunger and Starvation

Ground Reality	Publication/Sources	Date	Comment
If food is not available to migrant workers, food riot may be a real possibility: Pronab Sen	The Economic Times	28.03.2020	Former chief statistician Pronab Sen has warned that if food requirements of migrant workers with no income are not fulfilled amid countrywide lockdown, then 'food riot' may be a real possibility. "If the supply system doesn't come unstuck, if the requirements of people who have no income are not met then food riots are a very real possibility," Sen said.
Ration/Food Services are	The New Indian	27.03.2020	As per reports an 11 year old Dalit boy died of hunger

badly hit and people are starving to death	Express		at Musahar Tola in Bhojpur District of Bihar. The victim was the son of a daily wage worker, who was out of work since March 21.
An 11-year-old boy reportedly died of hunger on March 27 in Bhojpur area of Bihar	The Wire	29.03.2020	A dalit child of Jawahar tola at Ara district died during lockdown allegedly because of starvation. As per a report published by the Wire title "19: The Number of Migrant Workers, Kin Who Died Trying to Return Home Since Lockdown Started" An 11-year-old boy reportedly died of hunger on March 27 in Bhojpur area of Bihar as the family could not arrange for food due to the strict implementation of the lockdown.

The shopkeepers increase the price of daily use products and ration. Essential items like Wheat Flour out of stock from the market. The shopkeepers stock the essential rations. Black-marketing of Sanitizer and Masks in Patna. Shortage of Gas Cylinders in Patna, IOC (Indian Oil Corporation)	Prabhat Khabar	25.03.2020	After the announcement of the complete lockdown till 14.04.2020 by the Prime Minister, the people went on to the shops in huge numbers and the stock of ration was over after which the shopkeepers who had some stock with themselves started selling the products at a higher price. On 25.03.2020 the essential items like wheat flour went out of stock in the city of Patna. The shopkeepers stock the essential rations. Black-marketing started of Sanitizer and Masks in Patna. Further, it was reported that there is a shortage of Gas Cylinders in Patna, IOC (Indian Oil Corporation) says no shortage of fuel and gas.
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says no shortage of fuel and gas			Bihar Essential Articles (Display of Prices and Stocks) Order of 1977 implemented in the state of Bihar. Price Monitoring Cell constituted in all the districts of Bihar to keep a check on the black marketing and take strict actions if required.
Ration Items go out of stock. Black marketing and hoarding of essential items on the run. Local authorities failed to address the situation.	Dainik Jagran & Prabhat Khabar	29.03.2020	The reports of black marketing and stocking increases in Bihar. Wheat Flour goes out of stock in Patna. Stockists demanding higher prices. Hike in the price of Potato and Onion in Patna. Fodder goes out of stock in Bihar.
Mid-day meal-	News Click	17.03.2020	The Education Department

COVID-19: Bihar Govt to Give Only Rs 7.5 Per Meal to Children Deprived of Midday Meals			of Bihar government has instructed its district education officers to reimburse the children for their mid-day meals during the 15-day shutdown caused by the global pandemic COVID-19 with merely Rs 114. The letter instructed that the Department should deposit Rs 114 and Rs 171 for standard I to V and VI to VII students respectively into the bank account of students/parents.The letter, while calculating the consumption, estimates that the students are likely to consume 1.5 kg of grains with an average of 100 gram per day and as per the planned rates and other components, Rs 114.21
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			“should be enough” for compensation. The data by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare suggests that about 44% in the 0-5 years age group in Bihar are underweight, while country’s average is 35%.Similarly, it also tops the list of stunted children in the 0-5 years age group with 48%; whereas, the national average remains at 38%. A further digging reveals that the state has 21% population of wasted children who are in the 0-5 years age group. Wasted children are those who have very low height or weight.The letter has enraged the locals and activists alike. Pushya Mitra, senior journalist based in
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			Patna, told NewsClick that the letter mocks the destitution of the children and provides for insufficient measures in a state which was ranked worst in child malnutrition. He said, "If we go by the letter, you can feed your child at a time with Rs 7.5 only. Is it feasible? Certainly not. During the encephalitis season, we saw the deaths of hundreds of children last year. A prime reason behind the whopping number of deaths was that almost all children were malnourished or stunted."
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3. Absence of medical aid

Ground Reality	Publication	Date	Comment

State not providing N 95 masks and PPE to Medical College interns.	Hospital Notification, jawaharlal Nehru Medical College and Hospital, Bhagalpur, Letter No.1335	24.03.2020	The Medical Superintendent at Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College and Hospital, Bhagalpur has informed all the interns that a video conference meeting was lined up with the Principal Secretary. Department of Health, where he has directed that as per the guidelines of ICMR the medical staff don't require N95 masks and PPE for OPD and Emergency wards. Therefore, they must continue their duty with normal masks otherwise dereliction to their duty will be reported to the
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			Principal Secretary.
85 Junior Doctors forced into quarantine due to lack of PPEs, Government doctors in Patna seek home quarantine	Letter by Junior Doctors Association, Nalanda Medical College Hospital (NMCH), Patna, Letter by Medical Supritendent, NMCH to Principal Secretary, Depa rtment of Health, The Hindu	23.03.2020 26.03.2020	The Junior Doctors Association at NMCH, Patna has reported to the Medical Superintendent that they were not provided PPE during the screening check ups of COVID 19 suspects which led to quarantine of at least 85 P.G Doctors. "The medical superintendent is threatening senior and junior residents with termination from the hospital. They are silent on necessary arrangements. They have either kept the government in the

			dark about arrangements to deal with the situation or the government is not paying heed to the threat, which is looming large,” said a doctor of the hospital. The Hindu- They say lack of protective gear has exposed them to health risks while dealing with patients. As many as 83 junior doctors of the Nalanda Medical College and Hospital (NMCH) in Patna, which has been designated as the State’s first COVID 19 special hospital, have written to their superintendent seeking a 15-day
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			home quarantine as many of them have developed symptoms of the viral disease in the absence of protective kits and masks.
Absence of Testing Center	Quartz India	18.03.2020	The state with a population of approximately 13 crore has just 1 testing center. according to statistics shared by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). In Bihar, the third-most populous state, the density is even worse at one centre for every 122 million people.
Non Availability of PPE	Prabhat Khabar	26.03.2020	Doctors and Medical staffs wait for PPE kits

			in Patna Medical College and Hospital, AIIMS and Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences. Doctors and Medical staff of Nalanda Medical College and Hospital did gherao of Superintendent, demanding PPE kits as per the guideline. No N95, PPE kit and equipment provided to the doctors. Doctors, Medical, Nursing and Health Services Staffs are not being provided with the upto the mark Protection Kits in Patna City. Hospital workers are not getting masks and sanitizers in Danapur,
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			Patna.
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4. Distress Migration

Ground Reality	Publication	Date	Comment
Bihar faces huge task of screening 50,000 migrant workers who returned to state	India Today	26.03.2020	As many as 50,000 migrant workers returned to Bihar a day before the nationwide lockdown kicked in on March 25. Bihar has stepped up efforts to screen all of them. State health department officials admitted that the massive inflow of workers has made it difficult to quarantine each of them. This does pose a challenge of community spread if anyone of them turns out to be infected by the deadly novel

			coronavirus. Some of the migrant workers have come disregarding advice of self-quarantine. It is not only the migrants returning home who are posing a challenge. Managing the 1,751-km-long and porous Indo-Nepal borders, and keeping a tab on the 6,364 villages bordering the neighbouring country with numerous open transit points, is proving to be a difficult job.
Migrant labourers from states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, who	The Week Title-Explainer: Migrant crisis amid the coronavirus	29.03.2020	Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said sending stranded migrant workers to their home states would

worked in areas like Mumbai and the national capital, found themselves in the literal deep end of affairs. Left with no means to earn a living, they were forced to undertake long journeys on foot to their far-flung homes in the absence of any means of transport. Most of them had to walk hundreds of kilometres to reach their hometown	pandemic. How are different states reacting to it?		defeat the purpose of the lockdown and could increase the spread of the coronavirus. He said a better course of action would be to provide food and shelter to such people, wherever they are, by setting up special camps. Kumar ordered officials to set up relief camps in districts in Bihar that share borders with adjoining states like Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand, and also Nepal. "Arrangement of buses could bring respite to people who have been enduring problems after the nationwide lockdown came into force. But we
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			must be mindful of the danger. If just one passenger in any of these buses happens to be carrying the virus, it could spread,"
"Amid COVID-19 lockdown, 14 workers walk from Jaipur to Bihar"	The Deccan Herald	26.03.2020	Relevant excerpts from the article- Sudhir Kumar and his 13 other friends from Bihar got a job at a cold storage in Jaipur. They had hardly worked for 25 days, were paid Rs 2,000 each by the owner and were asked to return to their home state. As no vehicle was plying Left with no other choice, we 14 labourers started for Bihar on foot," said Sudhir to a vernacular daily. "Most of the road-

			side dhabas were closed. We ate whatever was available. We would stop at line hotels during night hours for rest and then restart our onward journey for Bihar, which is more than 1000 km from Jaipur," he said, adding that the group was presently crossing Uttar Pradesh after five days of 'travel on foot'.
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5. Police brutality

Ground Reality	Publication	Date	Comment
Patna Municipal Corporation Sanitization worker going on duty thrashed in Patna by Police.	Times of India	28.03.2020	A sanitization worker of the Patna Municipal Corporation was thrashed by the Police in the city of Patna during the lockdown on 27.03.2020 while he

			was going to duty. The sanitization worker kept on repeating and requested the police to not to beat him and let him go as he was going on duty but the police kept on beating him leading to injuries
General Public as well as persons involved in essential commodity services are beaten up by police	Navbharat Times	26.03.2020	Police are brutally beating up general people as well as persons who are exempted under the guidelines of the Ministry of Home affairs. Persons working under exempted categories such as security guards, vegetables vendors, sanitation workers etc are subjected to police brutality.

6. Homeless

Ground Reality	Publication	Date	Comment
No basic facilities available to the homeless	Prabhat Khabar	26.03.2020	The Slum Areas have been sanitized but most of the slums are not having basic facilities and rations. The daily wage labourers and rickshaw pullers who generally reside in the slums are left with no jobs in this lockdown and so far the Govt has also not announced anything specific for the slum dwellers.
Homeless not able to find refuge anywhere in the city of Patna	Report by Koshish, Patna		In some areas there is very less or no ration in stock of PDS shops. The people residing in slums(mainly rickshaw pullers and daily wage labourers) are not having

			money to buy products. The sellers and shopkeepers are selling products at a higher price. The small children are not getting milk. The homeless are not provided with shelter homes. Most of the shelter homes are already full.
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Ground Reality	Publication	Date	Comment
COVID 19 crisis: All ration card holding families in Bihar to get Rs 1,000 each	The Economic Times	25.03.2020	Initially, the assistance was only meant for families falling under urban local bodies or panchayats. However, after a fresh review of the situation it was decided that the facility be extended to all

			families with a ration card and that the money be transferred into the respective accounts through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system.
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True copy of the fact-finding report about the current situation in Bihar dated 29.03.2020 is annexed as Annexure P3 at page 75 to 93.

SITUATION IN UTTARAKHAND

31. Uttarakhand does not remain untouched from the lockdown of 21 days which has been imposed without taking into consideration the predicament of the downtrodden. The stakeholders of all sectors of economy remained aloof from several reliefs that the Central Government and the State Government announced to address the grievance of those in need.
32. Tourism which is one of the primary sources of employment in Uttarakhand has taken worst hit, and affected a large number of people including and in addition to hawkers, barbers, painters, migrant workers, daily wagers, taxi drivers, cobblers, and the like. The State Government has endeavoured to transfer Rs 1000 in the accounts of 3 lacs labourers which are registered with

them, however the amount is meagre and the same had not yet been transferred in the account of all the labourers.

33. Due to Lack Public Transportation -Many students, contract and migrant workers are stranded away from their homes in various locations within and even outside the State, who are being forced to stay in open public spaces, or are let with no civic amenities or food security in the places where they live.
34. Patients as well as pregnant women in Uttarakhand, do not have any means to find commute to avail required medical facilities.
35. Lack of Health Facility - The pharmacies in Uttarakhand have insufficient supplies of medicines even for the patients of any other health condition.
36. People who are suffering from any other medical condition than COVID-19, state polices have failed to take them into account.
37. Administrative - The power to issue passes allowing commutation in case of exigency is with the District Administration, therefore it is not accessible who live in distant villages, blocks and tehsils within the same district.
38. The status report of the State of Uttarakhand prepared by lawyers and social activists is annexed herewith as Annexure P4 at page 94 to 100.

SITUATION IN MADHYA PRADESH

39. The situation in Madhya Pradesh is also similar to the rest of the country.

- i Lack of water supply- At Lasudiya Indore due to water scarcity because non supply of water tankers at regular hours people are force together for water and avoid Social distancing regular water tanker supply has been stopped which do need of water on daily basis to these poor people.
- ii Anganwadi's closed - All Anganwadis in Indore has been shut down mid day meal also not provided by Asha worker.
- iii No transport for the laborers- Labours who went to Gujrat for work due to lock down has been forced to return their home Alirapur by there bare feet because in Gujrat no means of public transport has been banned and now they are forced to return their home without any money and no means of public transport and no food supplies has been provided to them.

True copy of the fact-finding report about the current situation in Madhya Pradesh dated 29.03.2020 is annexed as Annexure P-5 at page 101 to 119.

SITUATION IN THE STATE OF UTTAR PRADESH

40. There are reports of hunger and starvation in various parts of the state. Due to the lockdown, sealed borders and suspended transportation, the access to food is limited. It was also reported that the children in a certain community were eating grass.

41. Police brutalities in Uttar Pradesh are on a rise in the state of Uttar Pradesh. In an incident, a person who was going to buy medicine along with his wife was brutally beaten in Varanasi. Similarly, a vegetable vendor was beaten in Noida for selling vegetables.

True copy of the fact-finding report about the current situation in Uttar Pradesh dated 29.03.2020 is annexed as Annexure P-6 at page 120 to 125.

SITUATION IN NAGALAND

42. In Nagaland, hundreds of daily wage earners are unable to access and foodgrains.
43. Physical assault and harassment of the general public by the police authorities are also prevalent in the state of Nagaland.

True copy of the fact-finding report about the current situation in Nagaland dated 29.03.2020 is annexed as Annexure P-7 at page 126 to 135.

Central Government Relief Package dated 26.3.2020

44. This Relief package is at Annexure P-8 at page 136 to 141. A critique of the inadequacy and the incompleteness of this Relief package have been made by Mr. Nikhil Dey and other social activists, which is at Annexure P9 at page 142 to 148.

45. The Right to Food Campaign has also come out with a statement dated 27.03.2020, which is at Annexure P-10 at page 149 to 156, raising, inter alia, following demands:

- i. Open up the PDS entitlements to everyone who demands it on the basis of any identity card that they have (in line with Supreme Court order for drought, under the SwarajAbhiyan case) and discontinue ePOS based verification mechanisms.
- ii. Include cooking oil and increase the quantity of pulses in the PDS package.
- iii. Make arrangements for distribution of cooked food, especially in urban areas through community kitchens, night shelters, schools and anganwadi centres. The more decentralized this facility is, the less crowded will be the feeding centres, making it possible to follow the norms of physical distancing.
- iv. Make immediate arrangements for accommodation of migrant workers stranded in public places like bus stops and railway stations with nowhere to go during this lockdown.
- v. Provide all MGNREGA workers full payment– at not less than the state minimum wage rate– for the three months lockdown period irrespective of work being available.

- vi. Enhance the social security pension amounts to at least Rs. 2000 per month,
- vii. Provide maternity benefits of at least Rs. 6000 to all pregnant women, immediately, without any conditionalities.
- viii. Ensure unhindered inter/intra-state movement of goods transport vehicles carrying food and other essential items. The travel restrictions must not affect these items from reaching PDS shops or even regular grocery stores.
- ix. Establish a system where civil society organisations can give feedback to the government on the effectiveness of these measures. A functioning grievance redress system must also be put in place – this could build on the existing toll-free help line numbers, DGROs and state food commissions under the NFSA.
- x. Households that have children who are school going/anganwadi beneficiaries should be given an equivalent amount of the meals as dry rations or food security allowance.
- xi. As mentioned by the Finance Minister in her speech, works that can be undertaken under MGNREGA and otherwise while maintaining the norms of physical distancing should be identified. Such work if allowed to

continue must ensure that adequate safety and sanitary measures are put in place.

- xii. Mechanisms to help vegetables, fruits, milk etc. cultivated by farmers to reach consumers should put in place so that farmers do not suffer and consumers get food without price escalation. Otherwise, farmers are having to destroy crops.
- xiii. Action must be taken against formal sector declaring 'no work, no pay', and not paying workers for lockdown.

Prayer

50. In light of the facts and circumstances of this case, the Petitioners pray before this Hon'ble Court as under for a Writ/Order or Direction to the Union of India and all States and Union Territories to with immediate effect;

- i. Start Food Kitchens in all slums, all border points where workers have gathered, along road sides where workers are going home or are stranded.
- ii. To direct the police and ensure that no person in distress and no migrating person or person in search of food and employment is beaten by the police or treated with indignity.

- iii. That immediate arrangement be made for person to return home by buses and that be done so that workers can return home in a dignified manner, free of charge and with basic food and water provided to the passengers for their journey.
- iv. To immediately restart Anganwadi Centres in the country and the provision of the Midday Meal as before.
- v. Provide HIV drugs and antibiotics immediately to all HIV positive persons by airlifting these medicines if necessary.
- vi. Ensure that all medicines in the National list of essential medicines (NLEM) are available in all the pharmacies and stockists.
- vii. To direct all public hospitals to continue to remain open, keep their OPD's open and not to refuse new patients.
- viii. To create a open, transparent and easy to access system including an online system for advocates and doctors to obtain curfew/travel passes when they propose to travel in the public interest to assist the general public in distress and to access the court.

- ix. Not to insist on an Aadhar card or any form of identification while providing basic services such as food, water, shelter and medical attention.
- x. For an order in terms of the Note of the Right to Food Campaign dated 27.03.2020 at Annexure A- and the Concerned Citizen's response at Annexure A-
- xi. For an order directing all the State and the Union Territories as well as Union of India to immediately upload on the website the implementation of the various emergency measures/schemes/programmes made showing clearly thereon the entitlements and the payment/disbursement of the same to specified persons in specified areas so that the implementation of the said emergency measures may be easily monitored.
- xii. For an order directing the High Courts to improve the present system of access to justice and evolve a transparent and accessible system for the hearing of urgent PILs and for increasing access to justice.
- xiii. For an order directing the Chhattisgarh High Court to forthwith hear and decide W.P. PIL No 5748 of 2020.

- xiv. Pass such further order or orders as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and proper in the circumstances of the case.

AND FOR THIS ACT OF KINDNESS, THE PETITIONER AS IN DUTY BOUND SHALL EVER BE GRATEFUL.

Drawn by: Gunjan Singh

Drawn on: 30.03.2020

Filed on:

Filed by: Satya Mitra

(Advocate for the Petitioner)

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

CIVIL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION

Writ Petition (Civil)_____of 2020

(Under Article 32 of the Constitution of India)

In the matter of:

Swami Agnivesh & Anr

...Petitioner

Versus

Union of India & Ors

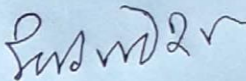
...Respondents

Affidavit

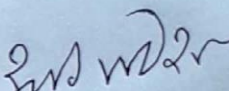
I, Swami Agnivesh, age about 80 years, R/o 7 Jantar Mantar, Delhi 110001, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare on oath asunder:

1. That I am the petitioner in the above titled petition, being filed in the general public interest and not any personal interest. I further declare that there is no civil or criminal proceedings against me which would have legal nexus with the issues involved in the present petition. I am well conversant with facts of the case and, hence, competent to swear this affidavit.
2. I have read the contents of the synopsis and list of dates on pages B-C, as well as the contents of the petition in paragraph 1-50 at pages 1-52 and accompanying applications as shown and explained to me in vernacular. I have understood the contents thereof.
3. I have not filed any other or similar petition/application before this Hon'ble Court or before any other Court.

are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing material
has been concealed.


Deponent

Verified at New Delhi on this 30th day of March, 2020 that the contents
of the above affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge, that no
part of it is false and that nothing material has been concealed.


Deponent

Appendix

Relevant part of the Constitution of India, 1950

Article 21: Protection of life and personal liberty No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law

Annexure P1

KARWAN E MOHABBAT- LOCKDOWN MIGRANT WORKERS VIDEO

DATED 27.3.2020 (6 mins)

The video starts with a discussion amongst the people who are making the video, they are discussing that the crowd is waiting for the food that they are getting.

- A worker here mentions that, "we have not even seen roti since 21st March and I am someone who makes rotis with my own hands in restaurants. We all are artisans, not just me but there are enough of them here."
- A lot of workers sitting together here are telling their stories, while one of them says, "Till today, I have not eaten properly for the past 4 days." Another one mentions, "I work in a hotel, I cook north indian dishes. Whatever I get Rs500 or 600, but I take it daily, however at present since the hotel is closed I am lying here helpless." One of the workers explains that, "I am a tandoor worker, everyday I earn Rs 600 there, I take the money everyday and eat everyday. But when I come back after working, I come here and sleep here only whenever the money gets finished, we go back and earn. We don't have any Aadhar card or any identity proof. We don't have any family, where will we go?" A worker here mentions states, "Now kindly tell us sir, Modi Ji has ordered this, where will we go? We are poor people"

- A middle aged worker says, "Due to hunger, won't these people fall sick? You tell me, where will they go? They all are from different states, they have no shelter, no place to cover their heads, if it rains then no place to sleep. They all are struggling like this, adding to which the police beat us."
- A previously interviewed worker adds, "If we sit here, then the police chase us and says go away. Trains are closed, where to go? There is no provision to go back home. All borders are sealed."
- While the food is being distributed to the people, Mr. Harsh Mander says, "This is the fourth day of the lockdown in Delhi and second day of the National Lockdown, and the conditions we just saw now that is only a glimpse of what is going around in the whole country. We have seen 1000 people 2000 people, 10,000 people at Yamuna Pushta sitting together, waiting 6-8 hours after which someone gives them just a handful of food. Women are hardly there to be seen, the conditions of women are children is very bad because in such a crowd which has men, it is difficult for women to come. What will happen to them during 21 days of lockdown? Hunger, loneliness, hopelessness. Coronavirus is a huge epidemic but poverty and hunger are relatively more dangerous than that. You can afford to do this lockdown in countries where people have houses, social security and such jobs where they will keep getting their wages but in our country

where nine out of ten labourers are from unorganised sectors, who have no job security, we cannot even their conditions. ”

- Adding again, an earlier interviewed worker says, “You will find here people who work in the hotel, the ones who wash the dishes, the ones who do the cleaning job, you will find everyone here. You will find a lot of great cooks also here, the ones who make excellent food. There is no more space left in rain basera. They say already the ones who are there in the shelter that is enough they won’t let anyone else enter there anymore. They beat us with sticks. They get a lot of rice and lentils but no one gets it, outsiders don’t get it. Only the ones who are living in the shelter get it that too in very less quantity.”
- A female worker says, “We were coming from Bihar, and the trains got suspended at New Delhi. We are stuck in the middle of our journey. The people near the slum in the park asked me to stay with them saying where will you roam with the baby, they said when we will make the food we will keep giving you. But even with their work closed, how long they could feed me.”
- Another worker here mentions that, “this is more troublesome than demonetisation, even during demonetisation we were getting at least something to eat. Now we are getting absolutely nothing.”
- A volunteer here explains, “The government has announced lockdown, they say there should be no gatherings and crowds in

large numbers but go and visit Yamuna Pushta and see there are thousands of people sticking on to each other, but why have they gathered? They are hungry, they are expecting that probably they might get some food here that is why they have gathered there but no one is focusing on that.”

- Mr. Harsh Mander mentions here that, “In 1943, we witnessed a famine and saw that if we do not pay any attention knowing that already the economic condition is in such a bad state right now, it should not happen that again a situation of famine arises again in our country. In the coming days, while securing ourselves in our houses we all have to keep in mind Gandhi's teachings and the person standing last in the line and ensure that we all must stay concerned about their safety as well. We must combine our voices along with theirs and make it reach the government and tell them to not make any such arrangement where hunger kills them before coronavirus.”
- Concluding the video, a worker says “To eat a meal for one time we have to stand at 9 am approximately and keep on standing in the line till 11, it has become extremely difficult to exist now.”

TRANSCRIPT OF KARWAN E MOHABBAT- LOCKDOWN MIGRANT
WORKERS VIDEO DATED 28.3.2020 (4.47 mins)

The interviewed migrant workers express their misery and distress

- One female migrant worker mentions “that people who are living inside their homes with their families are cooking and eating but what about the others who are living on the roads and streets, what will they do?”
- Another aged worker mentions “that when there is no work for us, what will we eat and till when? One can survive with the money we have for a maximum of 2 or 4 days but what after that. How do we survive when there is no work for us? All this is beyond our understanding.”
- One young worker pointing at his father says “that he is unable to eat anything since the past 17 days and due to consumption of alcohol his liver is damaged.” His father is taken away in an ambulance and his condition seems serious.
- Mr. Harsh Mander mentions that “we visited those areas of Delhi where homeless families reside in large numbers like Nizamuddin, families living under the Modi Mill flyover. They all were living in a really bad state, there were kids, women and

elderly. I assume someone has reached to distribute food and the whole crowd is rushing there in large numbers to get some food, they are pushing and shoving each other. Handful of people manage to get some food while the others are just sitting like that waiting for the food.”

- A young mother says “We are completely out of food now, earlier we had stocked 5kgs of rice but all of it is finished now, see even the oil container is empty now. Today, I have borrowed Rs 100 from someone to buy some ration.”
- Another old woman in a deplorable state explains “I am very sick and I just woke up and came here. I am unable to walk, someone has to help me while walking always. I was sitting with a small baby and he got drenched in the rain. The police snatched the plastic sheet I had covered the baby with.”
- A young labourer states “The police are beating the poor like dogs even if we are going out to take water. They are not even letting us drink water, what should we do? Should we die of hunger and thirst? We are poor people and we have nothing with us.”

- Showing at his blood stained clothes, another aged worker says
“They have beaten us so badly that we started to bleed, they have beaten me with a stick. I was begging on the road when they started to beat me.” The interviewer asked why did the police beat you? The worker said “I was just begging at the traffic signal for 5-10 rupees, I just wanted to have some tea. What will be done, at least we will have some tea.”
- Previously interviewed female worker says, “Here, if we purchase one cup of tea which is for Rs 10, then four of us can drink from it little by little each one of us. We get two cups of tea in a very small quantity, what will a person do?”
- A lot of female workers in unison are explaining the misery, one of them mentions, “1 kg of tomatoes cost us Rs 50” while some of the others mention “1 kg potato costs us Rs 40” one of an aged worker amongst the crowd says, “If we somehow manage to get food in night, then we don’t get it in morning and vice versa.” another one explains, “that whatever little food we get, we are surviving on it, we don’t have anything now.” someone in between mentions “No one is there for us, we don’t have anyone who looks out for us, we are lying here hungry and thirsty.”

- Mr. Harsh Mander again mentions, “we the people in this society who are middle class people, it is our duty and responsibility to look after the poor till whatever extent it is possible for us. We should try to feed 50, 100,4000 or 5000 people, if we can make some arrangement to give them food. That many people will manage to have longer lives. However, it is the primary responsibility of the government, the announcements which are now made by the government that they will feed thousands and lakhs of people. There is no scarcity of resources for the government, but recognising the person standing last in the line and reaching out to them with dignity and fulfilling their needs that is the responsibility of the government.
- One person mentions here that, “Please do something good for these poor people, otherwise they will die out of hunger and thirst. All the shops are closed, they don’t even have money that they can buy and eat food.

- A young worker says, "We just share all the food that is being distributed here amongst us and the rest with whatever little money we have at our homes we are using it to get food and feed 3-4 people with it. We are feeding the helpless, we are feeding them because what will we do by saving that money, we will die and leave this earth empty handed. What will we do by saving the money? We will get the blessings and maybe that might help me get more money somewhere else.

(True Copy)

Annexure P2

Report on effects of Coronavirus in Maharashtra

29.03.2020

Introduction

Epidemics are not new to the State of Maharashtra or for that matter this country. The Bubonic plague of the late 19th century resulted in the States overarching powers vested in the Epidemics Act, 1897 as did reinforcement of notions of Civic Sanitation after the Surat Plague in 2002.

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). Common symptoms include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Muscle pain, sputum production and sore throat are less common. While the majority of cases result in mild symptoms, some progress to severe pneumonia and multi-organ failure. As of 20 March 2020, the rate of deaths per number of diagnosed cases is 4.1%; however, it ranges from 0.2% to 15% depending on age and other health problems. The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the 2019–20 coronavirus outbreak a pandemic and a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC).

While it is often stated that the COVID - 19 virus does not discriminate, such a statement believes the fact that while the virus will disproportionately affect marginalised communities particularly within the urban sprawl it is not so much as due to the discerning nature of

the VIRUS but the inaction of the state over the years in ensuring an adequate and robust health system for the poor as well as better living conditions in terms of shelters, access to utilities like food, water, sanitation and open spaces among others.

The State of Maharashtra has, apart from a nationwide lockdown, called for the closure of workspaces on one hand and a request to establishments to continue paying bare workforce on the other. Similarly embargoes have been put into place in the running of shops and establishments along main thoroughfares, much before the National Lockdown. Coupled with the suspension of local, district and state transport facilities like the local trains in Mumbai along with the railways state transport buses though welcome, have had their own domino effects, given the odd sequence of the orders.

The shutting of establishments employing many in the unorganised sector has led to an exodus of a large number of the toiling class to their originating states. Originating states have responded with their own embargoes requesting the Ministry of rail to suspend trains from entering their jurisdictions. With the lockdown of District and State borders, many are now left stranded at the new disabled stations in the cities of the state.

While the steps undertaken by the state may very well fit within the premise of containment, the fact remains that large swaths of the states population particularly in its urban spaces like the Metropolitan cities of Mumbai, Pune Nagpur etc. consist of daily wage workers,

domestic workers, manual scavenging workers, street vendors and their families who to sustain themselves and their dependents rely on the mobility of the toiling class to be able to earn their daily wages.

The aforesaid embargoes need to go hand-in-hand with adequate Social Security measures that will ensure interalia food security, transit accomodation, access to water and sanitation, access to health services, access to correct information, and a robust mechanism to ensure that the most vulnerable sections of our Society do not face stigma and prejudice from the existing Civic services and Society.

The civic services provided by both the State of Maharashtra as well as the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai has had traditional blindspots. These traditional blind spots have either meant that services are unavailable to certain pockets in the city or are difficult to come by.

Slum population in Mumbai

It is estimated that 41% out of the total population in Mumbai reside in numerous slums scattered across the city. These slum dwellers have been rendered without work due to the spike in COVID-19 cases in the city in a state which currently holds in baton with the highest number of reported cases at 186 as on 29.03.2020 in the country, despite the current efforts put in place by the State the number is only expected to increase.

It has become a mammoth but imperative task for the civic authorities to sanitise the slums after three persons, from Ghatkopar slum,

Baiganwadi in Govandi and Cheetah Camp in Mankhurd, were tested positive for COVID. The reason was cited by the authorities as lack of awareness, the area being tightly packed and workers finding it difficult to move around with their spraying machines.¹

Homelessness

Despite the lockdown imposed till 31.03.2020, there is a backlog of cases pending before slum authorities pertaining to transit or alternate accommodation under the Slum Act, 1974 and DCR, 1991 and 2011. Many of these slum dwellers have already faced eviction and demolition which have rendered them homeless and several others are impending demolition.

The city of Mumbai also houses an increasing population of homeless persons. As per a survey conducted in 2011 around 2,00,000 homeless persons reside in the city of Mumbai. This slum population also includes elderly, women and children. Furthermore, this faction of the population has no access to any healthcare services which makes them highly susceptible to infectious diseases ie COVID-19.

In response to that, there are only 75 homeless shelters in the state. There are only 26 shelters in Mumbai and out of these, 13 are for children. Only eight are functional. As per the apex court's guidelines, the state needs a minimum of 125 shelters. As the infrastructure is

¹ Sanitising slums in Mankhurd presents BMC with challenge; Times of India; 27.03.2020

almost negligible, homeless people of the state are left to their own devices.²

Sanitation

It is pertinent to note that these slum areas are one of the most neglected in terms of access to basic sanitation and health care services. It is pertinent to note that a vast majority of the Slum Population is dependent on sanitation facilities from MCGM or MHADA.

Furthermore, as per a survey conducted in 2013, 63% of the slum population does not have adequate access to safe sanitation facilities. About 84% depend on public toilets, 2% depend on private toilets and almost 4% defecate in the open and 10% have, pay to use toilets. Thus, slum populations have been forced to depend on public toilets to meet their sanitation needs.

Inadequate number of toilets leads to long queue and waiting time. Overuse and poor maintenance makes them unhygienic. Inadequate or no water supply and absence of electricity connections further limit the use of public toilets. The users are forced to carry their own pails.

Moreover, even in bigger cities such as Mumbai/Pune, sanitation workers are not provided with protection equipment, eg masks, gloves or boots.³

² Coronavirus Lockdown: Maharashtra Government has it planned for everyone, except homeless; Newsclick; 25.03.2020

³ Mumbai waste collectors work with their bare hands; Al Jazeera; 26.03.2020

Migrant Workers

There are about 12 lakh sugar cane cutters, transporters, sugarcane harvesting seasonal migrant workers in the Maharashtra state. The majority of seasonal workers or poorer live in the rural areas and belong to the categories of landless labourers, small and marginal farmers, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and other backward classes. In Maharashtra migrant workers are primarily engaged in jobs such as brick kilns, salt pans, stone quarries, construction (irrigation, canals, dams, road building) in agri-business like harvesting of sugarcane. It's imperative to note that the Corona virus scares have left uncompleted Rubi harvest with social distancing and lockdowns being in force. The food crop production for farm labour in the Kharif could be fatal in the absence of ecosystem inputs, supportive services and marketing assistance, pushing them to the brink of desperation.

Additionally, according to International Labour Organisation, there are 10 lakh handloom and power loom workers, 8 lakh workers who are engaged in building and construction sectors. In the Western Maharashtra, sugar factories engage near about six lakh seasonal migrant workers from drought prone areas of the state.

Seasonal migrant workers in sugar factories in Maharashtra and other states, they stay in makeshift shacks, huts or in the open and have no access to safe drinking water.

Many travelling from urban areas like Mumbai and Pune to their hometowns in the neighbouring states. As all modes of transportation

have suspended, many are forced to travel on foot or in goods vehicles like trucks and tempos with many other people in cramped conditions.^{4, 5}

As the borders of districts and states have been sealed, many are being stopped by the local administrations at these points, leaving them stranded, in many cases without provision of food or shelter. Many are being forced to walk back from where they came.⁶ Some migrant labourers are being arrested while trying to cross state/ district borders. The Telangana Maharashtra border has seen the most number of such cases.

Lack of access to food

With most slum dwellers, migrant workers and the homeless population losing their daily wages, it is being reported from many parts of the state that a major population is unable to procure ration supplies for their homes.

Meanwhile, while the State Government has announced an increase in monthly quota through the Public Distribution Scheme, it remains the need of the hour to supply daily food packets or monthly ration to the population of daily wage labourers and homeless population on any identity proof.

Police Violence

⁴ From Delhi to Maharashtra, mass exodus of migrant workers continue despite government's assurances; Financial Express; 27.03.2020

⁵ Truck Drivers leave migrant workers midway as they fail to pay money in Maharashtra; NDTV; 28.03.2020

⁶ Sea of migrants, wave of tragedies; The Times of India; 29.03.2020

As soon as the Central Government announced total lockdown of the country, the Police took to action to ensure that the citizenry complied with it and stayed indoors. What the Police forgot to understand is the Guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the same day that essential services will be available. Police violence is being reported across the state in various forms like beating, charging with batons, made to crawl, frog jump etc. Most of this is unleashed without assessing and realising the genuine concerns and need of people to step out, or their medical conditions, if any.

The Chief Minister of Maharashtra urged the Police to be lenient and not be stringent towards people stepping out for essential services. Police in Maharashtra allegedly beat homeless people to evict them from streets. Police have targeted daily wage workers, such as vegetable and fruit vendors, milk sellers, auto rickshaw and taxi drivers, and others delivering essential goods. Police have also allegedly harassed doctors and health workers.⁷

An ambulance driver on 27.10.2020 was reportedly hit by the Policemen and he later succumbed to the injury.⁸ An DCP rank officer level enquiry has been ordered into the said matter.^{9, 10}

Lack of medical equipment and healthcare facilities

⁷ Coronavirus Shows How The Government Has Failed Homeless Persons; The Wire; 26.03.2020

⁸ Police under fire for using violence to enforce coronavirus lockdown; DW; 28.03.2020

⁹ Probe ordered into ambulance driver's death after assault by policeman; Hindustan Times; 28.03.2020

¹⁰ Cops enforce lockdown with blows and insult; The Times of India; 28.03.2020

There is acute shortage of personal protective equipment in Government Hospitals of Maharashtra. Doctors are forced to take other measures such as scarves in place of masks.¹¹

Unless the demand of the personal protective equipment is met by the authorities, it will also act as a predicament for healthcare workers to visit slum areas and the homeless population for any medical facility to be availed. This would also lead to more visits by these communities to government hospitals, exposing them to the deadly virus.

(True Copy)

¹¹ Faced with N95 masks shortage, doctors and health workers use scarves, 3-ply masks; The Indian Express; 26.03.2020

Annexure P3**COVID-19 Pandemic: Lockdown Plight of People in Bihar****1.Suffering of the people**

S. No	Ground Reality	Publication /Source	Date	Comment
1.	Vehicle carrying essential commodities are stopped by police and local authorities	Times of India	27.03.2020	Three police constables were arrested on Thursday on charges of opening fire at the driver of mini truck in Danapur locality after he refused to give them Rs. 5,000 as bribe to allow the potato laden vehicle cross the pontoon bridge over the Ganga
2.	No awareness about the relief packages by the Government	Personal Testimony	29.03.2020	Many people living in the slum areas are unaware about the relief packages being announced by the Government. Further, the question of accessibility is the main concern. Ms Sushila, resident

				of Anisabd, Patna, who was working as house help is in a complete state of panic and trauma. She doesn't have any idea how to avail such facilities extended by the government. As she doesn't have a ration card she is disqualified from availing free ration benefits extended by the State Government to the Ration Card holders only.
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2. Hunger and Starvation

S.No	Ground Reality	Publication /Sources	Date	Comment
1	If food is not available to migrant workers, food riot may be a real possibility:	The Economic Times	28.03.2020	Former chief statistician Pronab Sen has warned that if food requirements of migrant workers with no income are not fulfilled amid countrywide lockdown, then 'food riot' may be a real possibility. "If the

	Pronab Sen			supply system doesn't come unstuck, if the requirements of people who have no income are not met then food riots are a very real possibility," Sen said.
2	Ration/Food Services are badly hit and people are starving to death	The New Indian Express	27.03.2020	As per reports an 11 year old Dalit boy died of hunger at Musahar Tola in Bhojpur District of Bihar. The victim was the son of a daily wage worker, who was out of work since March 21.
3	An 11-year-old boy reportedly died of hunger on March 27 in Bhojpur area of Bihar	The Wire	29.03.2020	A dalit child of Jawahar tola at Ara district died during lockdown allegedly because of starvation. As per a report published by the Wire title "19: The Number of Migrant Workers, Kin Who Died Trying to Return Home Since Lockdown Started"An 11-year-old boy reportedly died of

				hunger on March 27 in Bhojpur area of Bihar as the family could not arrange for food due to the strict implementation of the lockdown.
4	The shopkeepers increase the price of daily use products and ration. Essential items like Wheat Flour out of stock from the market. The shopkeepers stock the essential rations. Black-marketing of Sanitizer and	Prabhat Khabar	25.03.2020	After the announcement of the complete lockdown till 14.04.2020 by the Prime Minister, the people went on to the shops in huge numbers and the stock of ration was over after which the shopkeepers who had some stock with themselves started selling the products at a higher price. On 25.03.2020 the essential items like wheat flour went out of stock in the city of Patna. The shopkeepers stock the essential rations. Black-marketing started of Sanitizer and Masks in Patna. Further, it was reported that there is a

	Masks in Patna. Shortage of Gas Cylinders in Patna, IOC (Indian Oil Corporation) says no shortage of fuel and gas			shortage of Gas Cylinders in Patna, IOC (Indian Oil Corporation) says no shortage of fuel and gas. Bihar Essential Articles (Display of Prices and Stocks) Order of 1977 implemented in the state of Bihar. Price Monitoring Cell constituted in all the districts of Bihar to keep a check on the black marketing and take strict actions if required.
5	Ration Items go out of stock. Black marketing and hoarding of essential items on the run. Local authorities failed to address the	Dainik Jagran & Prabhat Khabar	29.03.2020	The reports of black marketing and stocking increases in Bihar. Wheat Flour goes out of stock in Patna. Stockists demanding higher prices. Hike in the price of Potato and Onion in Patna. Fodder goes out of stock in Bihar.

	situation.			
6	Mid-day meal- COVID-19: Bihar Govt to Give Only Rs 7.5 Per Meal to Children Deprived of Midday Meals	News Click	17.03.2020	The Education Department of Bihar government has instructed its district education officers to reimburse the children for their mid-day meals during the 15-day shutdown caused by the global pandemic COVID-19 with merely Rs 114. The letter instructed that the Department should deposit Rs 114 and Rs 171 for standard I to V and VI to VII students respectively into the bank account of students/parents. The letter, while calculating the consumption, estimates that the students are likely to consume 1.5 kg of grains with an average of 100 gram per day and as per the planned rates and other components,

				Rs 114.21 “should be enough” for compensation. The data by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare suggests that about 44% in the 0-5 years age group in Bihar are underweight, while country’s average is 35%.Similarly, it also tops the list of stunted children in the 0-5 years age group with 48%; whereas, the national average remains at 38%. A further digging reveals that the state has 21% population of wasted children who are in the 0-5 years age group. Wasted children are those who have very low height or weight.The letter has enraged the locals and activists alike. Pushya Mitra, senior journalist based in Patna, told NewsClick that the letter mocks the destitution of the children
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				and provides for insufficient measures in a state which was ranked worst in child malnutrition. He said, "If we go by the letter, you can feed your child at a time with Rs 7.5 only. Is it feasible? Certainly not. During the encephalitis season, we saw the deaths of hundreds of children last year. A prime reason behind the whopping number of deaths was that almost all children were malnourished or stunted."
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3. Absence of medical aid

S.No	Ground Reality	Publication	Date	Comment
1	State not providing N 95 masks and PPE to Medical	Hospital Notification , jawaharlal Nehru Medical	24.03.2020	The Medical Superintendent at Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College and Hospital, Bhagalpur has informed all the interns that a video

	College interns.	College and Hospital, Bhagalpur, Letter No.1335		conference meeting was lined up with the Principal Secretary. Department of Health, where he has directed that as per the guidelines of ICMR the medical staff don't require N95 masks and PPE for OPD and Emergency wards. Therefore, they must continue their duty with normal masks otherwise dereliction to their duty will be reported to the Principal Secretary.
2	85 Junior Doctors forced into quarantine due to lack of PPEs, Government doctors in Patna seek home	Letter by Junior Doctors Association, Nalanda Medical College Hospital (NMCH),	23.03.2020 26.03.2020	The Junior Doctors Association at NMCH, Patna has reported to the Medical Superintendent that they were not provided PPE during the screening check ups of COVID 19 suspects which led to quarantine of at least 85 P.G Doctors. "The medical

	quarantine	Patna, Letter by Medical Supritende nt, NMCH to Principal Secretary,D epartment of Health, The Hindu		superintendent is threatening senior and junior residents with termination from the hospital. They are silent on necessary arrangements. They have either kept the government in the dark about arrangements to deal with the situation or the government is not paying heed to the threat, which is looming large,” said a doctor of the hospital. The Hindu- They say lack of protective gear has exposed them to health risks while dealing with patients. As many as 83 junior doctors of the Nalanda Medical College and Hospital (NMCH) in Patna, which has been designated as the State’s first COVID 19 special hospital, have written to their superintendent seeking a 15-day home
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				quarantine as many of them have developed symptoms of the viral disease in the absence of protective kits and masks.
3	Absence of Testing Center	Quartz India	18.03.2020	The state with a population of approximately 13 crore has just 1 testing center. according to statistics shared by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). In Bihar, the third-most populous state, the density is even worse at one centre for every 122 million people.
4	Non Availability of PPE	Prabhat Khabar	26.03.2020	Doctors and Medical staffs wait for PPE kits in Patna Medical College and Hospital, AIIMS and Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences. Doctors and Medical staff of Nalanda Medical College and Hospital did gherao of

				Superintendent, demanding PPE kits as per the guideline. No N95, PPE kit and equipment provided to the doctors. Doctors, Medical, Nursing and Health Services Staffs are not being provided with the upto the mark Protection Kits in Patna City. Hospital workers are not getting masks and sanitizers in Danapur, Patna.
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4. Distress Migration

S.No	Ground Reality	Publication	Date	Comment
1	Bihar faces huge task of screening 50,000 migrant workers who returned to	India Today	26.03.2020	As many as 50,000 migrant workers returned to Bihar a day before the nationwide lockdown kicked in on March 25. Bihar has stepped up efforts to screen all of them. State health department

	state			officials admitted that the massive inflow of workers has made it difficult to quarantine each of them. This does pose a challenge of community spread if anyone of them turns out to be infected by the deadly novel coronavirus. Some of the migrant workers have come disregarding advice of self-quarantine. It is not only the migrants returning home who are posing a challenge. Managing the 1,751-km-long and porous Indo-Nepal borders, and keeping a tab on the 6,364 villages bordering the neighbouring country with numerous open transit points, is proving to be a difficult job.
2	Migrant labourers from	The Week Title-	29.03.2020	Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said sending stranded

states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, who worked in areas like Mumbai and the national capital, found themselves in the literal deep end of affairs. Left with no means to earn a living, they were forced to undertake long journeys on foot to their far-flung homes in the absence of any means of transport. Most of them had to walk	Explainer: Migrant crisis amid the coronavirus pandemic. How are different states reacting to it?	migrant workers to their home states would defeat the purpose of the lockdown and could increase the spread of the coronavirus. He said a better course of action would be to provide food and shelter to such people, wherever they are, by setting up special camps. Kumar ordered officials to set up relief camps in districts in Bihar that share borders with adjoining states like Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand, and also Nepal. "Arrangement of buses could bring respite to people who have been enduring problems after the nationwide lockdown came into force. But we must be mindful of the danger. If just one passenger in any of these buses happens to be carrying the virus, it could
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	hundreds of kilometres to reach their hometown			spread,"
3	"Amid COVID-19 lockdown, 14 workers walk from Jaipur to Bihar"	The Deccan Herald	26.03.2020	Relevant excerpts from the article- Sudhir Kumar and his 13 other friends from Bihar got a job at a cold storage in Jaipur. They had hardly worked for 25 days, were paid Rs 2,000 each by the owner and were asked to return to their home state. As no vehicle was plying Left with no other choice, we 14 labourers started for Bihar on foot," said Sudhir to a vernacular daily. "Most of the road-side dhabas were closed. We ate whatever was available. We would stop at line hotels during night hours for rest and then restart our

				onward journey for Bihar, which is more than 1000 km from Jaipur," he said, adding that the group was presently crossing Uttar Pradesh after five days of 'travel on foot'.
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5. Police brutality

S.No.	Ground Reality	Publication	Date	Comment
1	Patna Municipal Corporation Sanitization worker going on duty thrashed in Patna by Police.	Times of India	28.03.2020	A sanitization worker of the Patna Municipal Corporation was thrashed by the Police in the city of Patna during the lockdown on 27.03.2020 while he was going to duty. The sanitization worker kept on repeating and requested the police to not to beat him and let him go as he was going on duty but the police kept on beating him leading to injuries

2	General Public as well as persons involved in essential commodity services are beaten up by police	Navbharat Times	26.03.2020	Police are brutally beating up general people as well as persons who are exempted under the guidelines of the Ministry of Home affairs. Persons working under exempted categories such as security guards, vegetables vendors, sanitation workers etc are subjected to police brutality.
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6. Homeless

S.No	Ground Reality	Publication	Date	Comment
1.	No basic facilities available to the homeless	Prabhat Khabar	26.03.2020	The Slum Areas have been sanitized but most of the slums are not having basic facilities and rations. The daily wage labourers and rickshaw pullers who generally reside in the slums

				are left with no jobs in this lockdown and so far the Govt has also not announced anything specific for the slum dwellers.
2	Homeless not able to find refuge anywhere in the city of Patna	Report by Koshish, Patna		In some areas there is very less or no ration in stock of PDS shops. The people residing in slums(mainly rickshaw pullers and daily wage labourers) are not having money to buy products. The sellers and shopkeepers are selling products at a higher price. The small children are not getting milk. The homeless are not provided with shelter homes. Most of the shelter homes are already full.

7. Relief clauses

S.No	Ground Reality	Publication	Date	Comment
1	COVID 19 crisis: All ration card holding families in Bihar to get Rs 1,000 each	The Economic Times	25.03.2020	Initially, the assistance was only meant for families falling under urban local bodies or panchayats. However, after a fresh review of the situation it was decided that the facility be extended to all families with a ration card and that the money be transferred into the respective accounts through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system.

(True Copy)

Annexure P4**COVID – 19 Uttarakhand Report**

Uttarakhand does not remain untouched from the outbreak of coronavirus which causes COVID-19, the disease which has been declared pandemic by the World Health Organisation. Six people initially were tested positive, in the capital city out of which one Indian Forest Service Officer had fully recovered and two more patients are in the path of recovery. Due to this reason the government of Uttarakhand is on guard for only one disquieting concern i.e., to prevent the transmission of this new virus.

The Government has not yet geared up to takeover the fight against COVID-19 and are lagging far behind in upgrading health facilities along with test labs for COVID-19 as per the required norms and standards. All the District Hospitals in the hilly districts lack adequacy in number of doctors, other medical staff and ventilators. In district Almora for instance, there is just one Physician for a population of an entire district.

But the worst has been brought down on people by lockdown of 21 days which has been imposed without taking into consideration the predicament of the downtrodden. The stakeholders of all sectors of economy remained aloof from several reliefs that the Central Government and the State Government announced to address the grievance of those in need.

Tourisms which is one of the primary sources of employment in Uttarakhand has taken worst hit, and affected a large number of people including and in addition to hawkers, barbers, painters, migrant workers, daily wagers, taxi drivers, cobblers, and the like. The State Government has endeavoured to transfer Rs 1000 in the accounts of 3 lacs labourers which are registered with them, however the amount is meagre and the same had not yet been transferred in the account of all the labours.

The major problems in the backdrop of the present crisis and the lockdown which people in Uttarakhand are facing are:

Due to Lack Public Transportation

1. Many students, contract and migrant workers are stranded away from their homes in various locations within and even outside the State, who are being forced to stay in open public spaces, or are let with no civic amenities or food security in the places where they live.
2. Patients as well as pregnant women in Uttarakhand, do not have any means to find commute in order avail required medical facilities.
3. Cab drivers who attain passes from the district administration, charge extravagant.

Lack of Health Facility

4. The pharmacies in Uttarakhand have insufficient supplies of medicines even for the patients of any other health condition.
5. In spite of the government order, masks and sanitizers are being sold overpriced.
6. Inadequacy of masks and sanitizers in very district.
7. People who are suffering from any other medical condition than COVID-19, state polices have failed to take them into account.

Administrative

8. The power to issue passes allowing commutation in case of exigency is with the District Administration, therefore it is not accessible who live in distant villages, blocks and tehsils within the same district.

Newspaper Reports Uttarakhand from 22.03.2020 to

29.03.2020

HARDSHIP OF PREGNANT MOTHERS

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संस्कृत में लिखे गए प्राचीन ग्रंथों में 'अथर्ववेद' का उल्लेख है। यह ग्रंथ वैदिक काल के अंतर्गत लिखा गया था। इसमें अथर्ववेद के अंगों का वर्णन है।

इंटर

एक प्रकार का खेल है। इसमें दो टीमों के बीच खेल होता है। यह खेल बहुत पसंद किया जाता है।

अथर्ववेद

वैदिक काल के अंतर्गत लिखा गया एक ग्रंथ। इसमें अथर्ववेद के अंगों का वर्णन है।

अथर्ववेद

वैदिक काल के अंतर्गत लिखा गया एक ग्रंथ। इसमें अथर्ववेद के अंगों का वर्णन है।

रीजेन्टा में दहरा ब्रिटिश नागरिक कोरोना पॉजिटिव, होटल सील

रजेंटा में रिजिस्टर्ड होटल में कोरोना का पहला मामला सामने आया

दिल्ली के रजेंटा में स्थित एक होटल में कोरोना वायरस का पहला मामला सामने आया है। रीजेन्टा होटल में एक ब्रिटिश नागरिक कोरोना पॉजिटिव पाया गया है। होटल को सील कर दिया गया है।

निदेशक समेत 59 को क्वांटाइन से छूट का इंतजार

कोरोना संक्रमितों को छुट्टी के बाद होटल में क्वांटाइन किया गया

कोरोना संक्रमितों को छुट्टी के बाद होटल में क्वांटाइन किया गया है। निदेशक समेत 59 लोगों को क्वांटाइन से छूट का इंतजार है।

कोरोना संक्रमितों को छुट्टी के बाद होटल में क्वांटाइन किया गया

कोरोना संक्रमितों को छुट्टी के बाद होटल में क्वांटाइन किया गया

कोरोना संक्रमितों को छुट्टी के बाद होटल में क्वांटाइन किया गया है। निदेशक समेत 59 लोगों को क्वांटाइन से छूट का इंतजार है।

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104 हेलगाइड पर फौत हमें कौन रखतें ? पर मनीषि किरतक

आज हमें जानना चाहिए कि हम कौन कौन से चीजों को अपने जीवन में ले रहे हैं। हमें जानना चाहिए कि हमें कौन कौन से चीजों को अपने जीवन में ले रहे हैं। हमें जानना चाहिए कि हमें कौन कौन से चीजों को अपने जीवन में ले रहे हैं।

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बिहम जगन

तुम्हें नहीं, पर मुझे रहें

१०० करोड़ों की ताकत हमारे पास है
हम तुम्हें नहीं चाहते, पर हमें रहना है
तुम्हें नहीं, हमें रहना है
हम तुम्हें नहीं चाहते, पर हमें रहना है



आजुबूट व होमोपैथिक बिभाग के पास नहीं उपकरण

हमें जानना चाहिए कि हमें कौन कौन से चीजों को अपने जीवन में ले रहे हैं। हमें जानना चाहिए कि हमें कौन कौन से चीजों को अपने जीवन में ले रहे हैं। हमें जानना चाहिए कि हमें कौन कौन से चीजों को अपने जीवन में ले रहे हैं।

आज का घर नहीं, मुझी घर है

बिहम जगन

— आसार गुप्ता

हमें जानना चाहिए कि हमें कौन कौन से चीजों को अपने जीवन में ले रहे हैं। हमें जानना चाहिए कि हमें कौन कौन से चीजों को अपने जीवन में ले रहे हैं। हमें जानना चाहिए कि हमें कौन कौन से चीजों को अपने जीवन में ले रहे हैं।

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PROMOTED CONTENT

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राष्ट्रीय
सहारा

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HIGH-HANDEDNESS OF POLICE



ATROCIOUS STANDSTILL



NO FOOD SECURITY



Annexure P5

COVID-19 REPORT MADHYA PRADESH

**-By SHANNO SHAGUFTA KHAN, Advocate
INDORE MP**

REPORT FROM INDORE, JHABUA, ALIRAJPUR

**1. DENIED TO ADMIT CORONA AFFECTED PATIENT IN WELL
KNOWN 6 HOSPITALS OF INDORE..**

In Dainik bhaskar news paper of Dated 27 March 2020 Indore hospital denied to admit Muslim 45 year old man when charak hospital authorities came to know that his mother of 70yrs old affected positive with Corona virus, thereafter he went 6 different hospitals of Indore who upfront denied to admit him in their hospitals and to test him.

Firstly, He went to Mayur hospital, Indore there he was denied then he went to Bhopal hospital Indore then to Suyesh Hospital then Choithram hospital Indore at last he went to M Y Gvt hospital, Indore there also he was admitted only because her mother was affected from corona virus also Ambulance 108 also denied to carry him to any hospital. On newspaper Dainik Bhasakar 27 March 2020.

भास्कर सवाल: मरीजों से भाग क्यों रहे अस्पताल?

मां को कोरोना, बीमार बेटे को ले भाई दिनभर चक्कर लगाता रहा, छह अस्पतालों ने भगाया

टीबी अस्पताल : देर शाम तक कोई सैंपल लेने नहीं आया तो मरीज का रिश्तेदार बरामदे में टहलता रहा

इंदौर/खजराना क्षेत्र निवासी 70 वर्षीय महिला में बुधवार देर रात को कोरोनावायरस के संक्रमण की पुष्टि हुई थी। सुयश अस्पताल में भर्ती है। उनका 45 वर्षीय बीमार बेटे का भी चरक अस्पताल में इलाज चल रहा था, लेकिन मां में कोरोना संक्रमण का पता लगते ही अस्पताल प्रबंधन ने उन्हें डिस्चार्ज कर दिया। उनके रिश्तेदार जुबैर मुलतानी बताते हैं कि अस्पताल वाले बोले- एमवायएच ले जाओ। हम पहले उन्हें मयूर अस्पताल ले गए। वहां उन्हें लेने से मना कर दिया। इसके बाद बांबे हॉस्पिटल ले गए। वहां भी भर्ती करने से इनकार कर दिया गया। इसके बाद सुयश अस्पताल आए। यहां भी वैसा ही बर्ताव हुआ। फिर चोइधराम अस्पताल ले गए। वहां भी रिफ्यूज कर दिया। इसके बाद एमवायएच ले गए। यहां भी सुनवाई नहीं हुई। पूरा दिन मरीज को लेकर घूमते रहे। शहर के छह अस्पताल भटके लेकिन मां संक्रमित होने से बेटे को भर्ती नहीं किया गया। अगर इस बीमारी का प्रकोप बढ़ेगा तो क्या हालत होगी। एम्बुलेंस सेवा ने भी हमें परेशान करने में कोई कसर नहीं छोड़ी। एम्बुलेंस 108 को फोन लगाया तो बोले कि 104 नंबर पर लगाओ।

यहां कोरोना पॉजिटिव आए दस मरीजों के रिश्तेदारों को एमआर टीबी अस्पताल में सैंपल देने के लिए भेजा गया। यहां उन्हें सामान्य फ्लू की ओपीडी में ही खड़ा कर दिया। बार्ड बाँय को मास्क पहना दिया गया, लेकिन बिना सुरक्षा साधन के वे मरीजों को वाई तक लाते ले जाते रहे जबकि यहां पॉजिटिव और संदिग्ध मरीजों को भी रखा गया है। यहां इंदौर सहित आसपास के जिलों से मरीज पहुंच रहे हैं लेकिन कोई भी व्यक्ति पूरी तरह सुरक्षित होकर नहीं आ रहा है। कई बार भीड़ इतनी हो जाती कि लोग पास-पास खड़े होते जा रहे थे। दोपहर में पॉजिटिव मरीजों के परिजन को अस्पताल भेजा गया ताकि उनके सैंपल लेकर जांच की जा सके। रानीपुरा क्षेत्र के एक मरीज को अस्पताल लाने से लेकर जांच होने तक एक दोस्त भी साथ था। उसे वाई में भर्ती किया गया। शाम तक जब कोई सैंपल लेने नहीं आया तो वह खुद उठकर बरामदे में चहलकदमी करता नजर आया। हैरानी यह है कि यहां कोई रोकने-टोकने वाला भी नहीं था।

गोकुलदास : पॉजिटिव को दूसरे अस्पताल भेजा, अब कार्रवाई

खातीवाला टैंक क्षेत्र की जिस 55 वर्षीय महिला में कोरोना का संक्रमण मिला था, उसे गोकुलदास अस्पताल ने भर्ती करने से मना कर दिया था। ऐसे में संक्रमित महिला को 10-12 किमी दूर अरबिंदो अस्पताल के आइसोलेशन वार्ड में भर्ती होना पड़ा। इस बीच, महिला के बेटे ने शहर के सभी बड़े अस्पतालों में जाकर बात की लेकिन किसी ने भी भर्ती करने के लिए हां नहीं की। अब स्वास्थ्य विभाग ने गोकुलदास अस्पताल को नोटिस जारी कर तीन दिन में जवाब मांगा है।

2. FAMILY OF 10 POSTIVE PATIENTS KEPT IN ONE LINE ALONG WITH NORMAL PEOPLE IN TB HOSPITAL

Due to gross negligence of MRTB Hospital staff they are not differentiating with general patients and affected patients and are kept in same line for testing, report is attached from Dainik Bhaskar newspaper 27/03/20.



3. INDORE AMBULANCE ARE FAILED TO AMBULANCE THERE DUTIES DURING EMERGENCIES

One corona Virus affected lady was admitted in Humkan chand Poly clinic but due non-availability of ladies ward she need to be shifted to MTH hosp for that the relatives of the woman called 108 Ambulance for help and transportation but nobody has picked the call due to line continues busy line after one hour she got helped from 108.

Another case of ambulance for 60yr old man he was facing problem to respirate and was on high fever again 108 was called but the couldn't connected the ambulance for help at last he had

to acquire private help for transportation, Both New from Dainik Bhaskar is attached below of Dated 27/03/20



एमटीएच बिगड़ती जा रही थी तबीयत, नहीं पहुंची एंबुलेंस

सुबह एमआर टीबी अस्पताल में रानीपुरा निवासी एक मरीज को जांच के लिए लाया गया। यहां एक्स-रे व अन्य जांच करवा कर हुकमचंद पॉलीक्लिनिक जाने के लिए कहा गया। 60 साल के यह बुजुर्ग एंबुलेंस 108 को फोन लगाते रहें लेकिन एंबुलेंस नहीं आई। इधर तबीयत बिगड़ती जा रही थी। सांस लेने में परेशानी आ रही थी। बुखार तेज था। काफी देर तक कोशिश करने के बाद भी फोन ही कनेक्ट नहीं हो पाया। जब अस्पताल पहुंचे तो वहां से एमटीएच महिला अस्पताल जाने के लिए कह दिया गया। यहां भी एंबुलेंस के लिए फोन लगाया लेकिन एंबुलेंस नहीं आई। आखिरकार शाम 5 बजे एक रिश्तेदार मरीज को बाइक पर बैठाकर ही एमटीएच अस्पताल पहुंचे। यहां गेट पर गार्ड व पुलिसकर्मी तैनात है। मरीज से खड़े होते नहीं बन रहा था। वह अंदर जाने लगा तो गेट पर रोक दिया गया। उसने एमआर टीबी अस्पताल की पर्ची भी दिखाई लेकिन जवाब मिला कि पहले वार्ड की डॉक्टर लिखकर देंगी, तभी अंदर आने दिया जाएगा। बुजुर्ग अपने साथी के बाहर ही रोड पर बैठ गए। कुछ देर बाद पुलिसकर्मी ने अंदर जाने दिया।

4. DAILING NO. OF HOME DELIVERY NUMBER ARE SWITCH OFF OR AUTO ANS WHICH LEADS TO CROWD ON DEPARMENTAL STORES.

Mega Stores of Indore are deliberately not delivering the good at home although it has been clearly order from state govt. to

provide home delivery services. The dialing no of these stores are switched off or on auto answering mode most the time which lead to crowd at the stores. IMC also provided the list of rations for home delivery dialing no, but most of the time the no are switched off or out of reach infact I had also dialed these no. myself to check the reality the number was switched off therefore people are raiding towards to the departmental stores neglecting the Social distancing, Dainik bhaskar New paper report of attached of dated 29-3-20.

होम डिलीवरी के आधे नंबर बंद, इसलिए दुकानों पर भीड़

रिपोर्ट -1

स्टोर्स से



मैं गौरव शर्मा। जानता हूँ कि खतरों के बीच अपना पत्रकारिता धर्म निभा रहा हूँ। इसलिए, क्योंकि

मेरे परिवार के साथ-साथ भास्कर के लाखों पाठकों के परिवार को भी आज मेरी सबसे ज्यादा जरूरत है।

इंदौर | डी-मार्ट के लक्ष्मीबाई नगर स्टोर के बाहर खड़े संगम नगर निवासी मनोरमा शर्मा झुंझला रही थीं। कारण पूछने पर बोलीं कि प्रशासन ने कर्फ्यू में किराना और अन्य जरूरी सामान लोगों तक पहुंचाने के लिए होम डिलीवरी शुरू करवाई। इसके लिए ऑनडोर, डी-मार्ट, मेट्रो कैश, बिग बाजार, विशाल मेगा मार्ट, रिलायंस फ्रेश कंपनियों के 25 से ज्यादा नंबर जारी किए थे, लेकिन इनमें से ज्यादातर नंबर काम ही नहीं कर रहे। ऐसे में सामान लेने यहां आना पड़ा। इसके बाद भास्कर ने इस नंबरों पर कॉल किया तो यह बात सामने आई कि 25 से ज्यादा नंबर में से 14 तो बंद हैं। जो चालू हैं, उनमें ज्यादातर पर कॉल रिसीव नहीं हो रहे। डी-मार्ट ने अभी होम डिलीवरी के लिए मना कर दिया। कहा कि कंपनी यह सुविधा दो दिन बाद शुरू करेगी। वहीं, विशाल मेगा मार्ट (अन्नपूर्णा रोड) ने कहा कि होम डिलीवरी होगी, लेकिन एक किमी क्षेत्र के अंदर। राशन की डिलीवरी भी बुकिंग के दो दिन बाद मिलेगी।

नगर निगम के रूट प्रभारियों के नंबर बंद

निगम ने लोगों के घरों तक सब्जियां और किराना पहुंचाने की जिम्मेदारी तय करते हुए 460 रूट प्रभारियों के नंबर और नाम जारी किए। हालांकि कुछ रूट प्रभारियों ने या तो नंबर बंद कर लिए या कॉल नहीं उठाए। ऐसे में निगमायुक्त रविवार सुबह सात बजे उनसे बात करने।

होम डिलीवरी **लॉक**, हेल्पलाइन नंबर **डाउन**



डी-मार्ट : दो दिन बाद डिलीवरी देंगे, अभी आप स्टोर से ले सकते हैं सामान

लक्ष्मीबाई नगर स्थित स्टोर में कॉल कर सामान के ऑर्डर के लिए कहा तो वहां से कहा गया कि अभी होम डिलीवरी शुरू नहीं की है। दो दिन बाद शुरू हो सकती है। अभी आप स्टोर पर आ जाइए। यह रात आठ बजे तक खुला रहता है। राजेंद्र नगर स्थित स्टोर का नंबर आउट ऑफ सर्विस बताया। वहीं, कनाडिया और निपानिया स्थित स्टोर का नंबर लगातार व्यस्त ही रहा।

ऑनडोर : संदेश देते रहे- आपका कॉल महत्वपूर्ण है, पर रिसीव ही नहीं किया

ऑनडोर के तीन में से दो नंबर बंद मिले। एक नंबर पर कॉल ऑटो जनरेट है। इस पर कॉल किया तो संदेश सुनाई दिया कि नए ऑर्डर के लिए एक दबाएं। इसके बाद यह सुनाई दिया कि आपकी कॉल कस्टमर केयर अधिकारी को ट्रांसफर कर रहे हैं। वे जल्द संपर्क करेंगे। कॉल महत्वपूर्ण है, लेकिन काफी देर तक कॉल रिसीव नहीं हुआ। कालानी नगर निवासी सुषमा अग्रवाल के अनुसार, वे दो दिन से कॉल कर रही हैं। हमेशा यही सुनाई दिया, पर किसी ने कॉल रिसीव नहीं किया।

विशाल मेगा मार्ट : केवल एक किमी में ही घर तक सामान भेजने को कहा

अन्नपूर्णा रोड स्थित विशाल मेगा मार्ट के नंबर पर कॉल किया। इससे जुड़े संचालक ने कहा कि आप सामान की लिस्ट दे दीजिए। हम डिलीवरी करवा देंगे। डिलीवरी कहां करना है, यह पूछने पर जब अग्रसेन नगर का पता बताया तो उन्होंने कहा कि डिलीवरी सिर्फ एक किमी के अंदर ही होगी। सामान भी दो दिन बाद मिलेगा। वहीं, विजय नगर स्थित विशाल मेगा मार्ट का नंबर आउट ऑफ सर्विस बताया।

बिग बाजार : लैंडलाइन नंबर लगातार व्यस्त मिला, बाकी तीनों नंबर बंद रहे

जो चार नंबर जारी किए, उनमें से लैंडलाइन लगातार व्यस्त ही रहा। बाकी सभी फोन बंद मिले। राजेंद्र नगर निवासी लखन का कहना है कि इतने संकट के समय में भी प्रशासन के निर्देशों का पालन स्टोर से जुड़े लोग नहीं कर रहे हैं। इससे लोग परेशान हैं।

रिलायंस फ्रेश : चार नंबर जारी, लेकिन इनमें से किसी पर भी नहीं हो सकी बात

रिलायंस फ्रेश (बॉम्बे हॉस्पिटल) के दो नंबर में से एक बंद था। दूसरे पर कॉल रिसीव ही नहीं किया। वहीं, रिलायंस फ्रेश के पलासिया स्थित स्टोर में भी यही स्थिति रही।

मेट्रो कैश : आठ में से छह नंबर बंद मिले, दो पर कॉल ही रिसीव नहीं किया

देवास नाका स्थित मेट्रो कैश एंड कैरी के आठ नंबर दिए हुए हैं। इनमें से छह नंबर बंद मिले। दो नंबर पर कॉल रिसीव ही नहीं किया। विजय नगर निवासी अभिषेक ने बताया कि दो दिन से यही स्थिति है। परेशान होकर उन्हें घर से बाहर निकलकर राशन लाना पड़ा।

5. LACK OF WATER SUPPLY AT INDORE NEGELECTS SOCIAL DISTANCING.

At lasudiya Indore due to water scarcity because non supply of water tankers at regular hours people are force together for water and avoid Social distancing regular water tanker supply has been stopped which do need of water on daily basis to these poor people.



6.ANGANWADI OF INDORE COLSED

All anganwadi has been shut down mid day meal also not provided by Asha worker.

ALIRAJPUR/JHABUA

NO MEANS OF TRANSPORT FOR THE LABORS AND

POLICE DEMANDING Rs.2000 EXTRA FOR APPROVING PASS...

Labours who went to Gujrat for work due to lock down has been forced to return their home Alirapur by there bare feet because in Gujrat no means of public transport has been banned and now they are forced to return their home without any money and no means of public transport and no food supplies has been provided to them.

A news from News 18 link has been attached below...

<https://hindi.news18.com/news/madhya-pradesh/alirajpur-corona-effect-workers-of-alirajpur-are-returning-home-due-to-the-closure-of-work-mpsg-2961103.html>

दूरदराज से पैदल चलकर आ रहे ग्रामीणों ने अपनी दुःखभरी दास्तां सुनाई, पुलिस पर पैसे मांगने के लगाए आरोप कोरोना से तो बच जाएंगे, लेकिन घर नहीं पहुंचेंगे तो ऐसे ही मर जाएंगे...!



दूरदराज से अपने घर की ओर पहुंच रहे लोग।



पुलिस वाले अगले प्वाइंट पर हम प्रत्येक एक-एक व्यक्ति से 2000 रु. मांगे जा रहे हैं बताता हुआ युवक।

पीपुल्स संवाददाता • झाबुआ।
फोन: 9993685553

गुजरात व अन्य राज्यों से काम पर गए दोनों जिले के मजदूर लाखों की संख्या में अब तक पैदल सफर कर अपनी माँबल (घर) पहुंच रहे हैं। 4 दिन से भुवनेश्वर मजदूरों के पैरों में पैदल चल-चलकर छाते पड़ गए हैं। रात-दिन चलकर थक गए हैं। अन्य राज्यों से मजदूरों को वापस लाने और घर की ओर आ रहे हैं। ग्रामीण लोग उनके छोटे-छोटे बगानों, इलाकों, किरानेवाले पेटल चल करके अपने मंतव्य स्थान पर पहुंचने की आस लगाए निकल रहे हैं। छोटे-छोटे बच्चों को अपने कंधे पर रख सामान की पोटीली बनाकर सर पर रख बस चल ही रहा है। झाबुआ पहुंचने पर उन्होंने

अपनी पीड़ा सुनाई। राजकोट से आ रहे दलसिंह मेड़ा व बसू दिशिया का कहना है कि इस बीमारी के कारण गाँव बंद करने से हम कभी बच भी सकते हैं, लेकिन भुवनेश्वर चले-चलते हम व हमारे बच्चे कहीं नु हो नहीं मर जाएँ... सरकार को सोचना चाहिए कि हमारी सुविधा के लिए प्रबंध करें।

स्थान तक पहुंचाने के लिए पुलिस मांग रहे रुपये

एक तरफ तो लॉक डाउन की मार झेल रहे हैं, वहीं मंजिल तक पहुंचने के लिए पैदल चल रहे मजदूरों अपने गृह का पहुंचने के लिए खाने के लिए इंतजाम करने पर पता चलता है कि उन्हें अपने गृहगम्य पहुंचने के लिए

पुलिस वाले उनसे 2000 रुपये मांग रहे हैं, जबकि उनके पास इतने पैसे का पैसा नहीं है कि वह 2000 रु. एक-एक व्यक्ति के दे सकें। इसके लिए मजदूरों ने दो पैदल चलने का निर्णय लिया है। वह एक बाँधवा भी बंदराए पर जरी हुआ है, जिस पर बाहर से पहुंचे लोगों ने अपनी पीड़ा बताते हुए नोकझोंक दे रहे हैं।

पुलिस कमान को भी चाहिए कि इस संकट को घटो में आँखें बंद करके पुलिस वाले हैं, जो पैसे की डिमांड कर रहे हैं? अधिकार वह पुलिस वाले इस राज्य के हैं या बाहरी राज्य के... चाहे जो भी हो, जो भी पुलिस वाले इस मुश्किल घड़ी में भी इन लोगों से पैसे की डिमांड रख रहे हैं, उनके ऊपर मुखसत्री को अखत करवा करके उन पुलिसवालों पर

एकसर लेना चाहिए। लॉक डाउन के चलते आटा चूल्हों में भी बंद होने से लोग परेशान होते दिख रहे हैं।

गिठनेदार बोले...

सुबह 6 से 10 में सारी दुकानें खुलती हैं। उस समय सभी लोग अनाज वितरना सकते हैं। कुछ दिनों से पुलिस लाइन की चक्की काम नहीं कर रही है। जब पर कोई रुकने के लिए तैयार नहीं है। ज्यादा लोग वितराने आते नहीं हैं। इसी कारण यहाँ पर कोई रहने के लिए तैयार नहीं है। इसी कारण वह चक्की बंद हुई है। शहर की चक्की 6 से 10 खुल सकती है और चक्की वाली को हमने बोल भी रखा है और भी एक्स्ट्रा टाइम चाहिए तो वह आटा पीस सकते हैं।

- विनीत जैन, पुलिस अधीक्षक झाबुआ

COVID 19 SITUATION IN GWALIOR, SHIVPURI&REWA,MADHYA PRADESH.

- Swapnil

The district administrations like in the other district took efforts to implement the lockdown, which was imposed four days ago. After the lockdown we have seen many problems ranging from daily wage workers, domestic workers, manual scavenging workers, street vendors and their families who to sustain themselves and their dependents rely on the ability of the toiling class to be able to earn their daily wages. The state of Madhya Pradesh has a major population that still lives in villages and small towns. Most of the people living in these areas are either daily wage labourers or into agriculture. In some places, we heard that the administration wasn't allowing people to harvest their own lands. However latest report suggests that there have been certain restrictions imposed but the activity is not prohibited per say. Other reports suggested that a lot of tribals from the Shivpuri district were stuck in Agra and Dholpur and now after two days have started coming back to their villages.

The two major issues of consideration are the lack of medical preparedness and the state of the working class which is worst hit.

Also, many workers coming back have the potential to infect other people of the village since these workers are coming from big cities and could have been exposed to the virus. Although, there are steps been

taken to provide ration and food to these classes, the task is herculean with over 2000 villages in just these two districts.

NEWSPAPER REPORTS

जेएच में चिकित्सा इंतजामों की पोल खुली / कोरोना पर विधायक और डीन आमने-सामने, कलेक्टर बोले - जेएच के हालात से निराश हूं



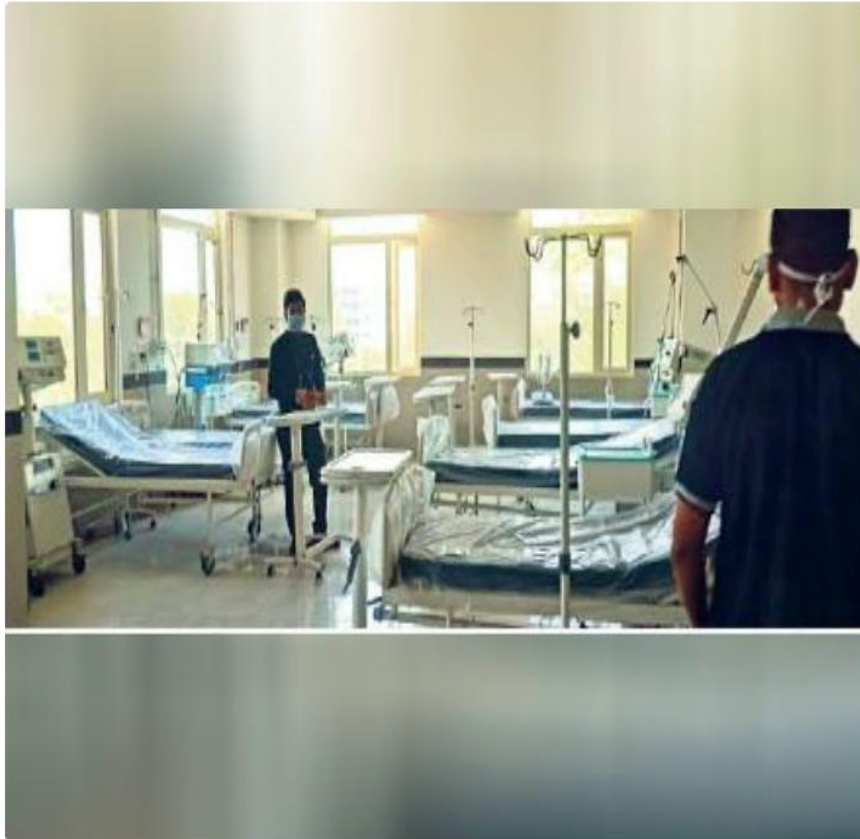
आइसोलेशन वार्ड के बाहर विधायक प्रवीण पाठक कलेक्टर व अन्य अधिकारियों से बात करते हुए।

- कोरोनावायरस को लेकर जेएच प्रबंधन और स्वास्थ्य विभाग के बीच सामंजस्य नहीं
- कोरोना संदिग्ध एक महिला को डॉक्टर ढाई घंटे तक इधर से उधर भटकाते रहे

This is the news from Gwalior edition of Dainik Bhaskar dated 28/03/2020. J.H is the name of the district hospital, which is being made ready for the crisis that is underway. When the local MLA visited the hospital, he found that the situation is not ideal for the upcoming influx of cases. The District Hospital is understaffed with minimal equipment and shortage of supplies. The designated officers to deal with COVID 19 have also raised similar issues. As far as the private hospitals are concerned, they were directed to be equipped with the necessary items. However, even they are facing shortage of the supplies.

In a conversation with a doctor working in Opollo, a prime private Hospital in Gwalior, we were told that there is shortage of N-95 masks and they are made to wear normal polythene because of there is shortage for the same. The situation for doctors, therefore is something to be looked at. At this point, there are hardly 5 cases in Shivpuri and Gwalior and inspite of such a small number, we can very well see the various challenges that the doctors and medical staff could face. There have been reports about non-availability of masks and basic equipment. The next newspaper report suggests that.

ग्वालियर / कोरोना का संक्रमण बढ़ा तो शहर में न पर्याप्त वेंटिलेटर और न बेड, इसलिए घर में रहना ही सही



राेना वायरस का संक्रमण बढ़ा ताे 1200 से ज्यादा मरीजाेें काे भर्ती नही किया जा सकेगा

- काेराेना वायरस का संक्रमण बढ़ा ताे 1200 से ज्यादा मरीजाेें काे भर्ती नही किया जा सकेगा
- सुपर स्पेशलिटी की दूसरी मंजिल पर 51 बिस्तर का आइसोलेशन वार्ड बनाया गया है

This reports indicates that the district is not prepared to take up splurge of cases and therefore it is best advised to stay at home. The capacity is only for about 1200 patients and with over 11 lakhs in only Gwalior city, it is very much clear that new medical centers is the need of the hour. Few organisations are working in this respect.

Another issue is of the lack of coordination of the Health department and the District Hospital. This report suggests the same.

ग्वालियर / कोरोना को लेकर स्वास्थ्य विभाग और जेएचएच में नहीं है सामंजस्य; कोरोना के संदिग्ध मरीज को भेज दिया जिला अस्पताल



जेएचएच हॉस्पिटल

कोरोना का डर / ग्वालियर में सुबह पुलिस ने दुकानें बंद कराईं, शिवपुरी में सब्जी बेचने वालों पर प्रतिबंध, सिर्फ दूध की सप्लाई



ग्वालियर के शिंदे की छावनी इलाके में पसरा सन्नाटा।

- ग्वालियर में कर्फ्यू का सख्ती से पालन कराया जा रहा, ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों से सब्जी लेकर आ रहे किसानों को भी पुलिस ने शहर में नहीं घुसने दिया

During the first two days, the street vendors in some places were being denied to put up their products. This, however, to a certain extent changed later. This report suggested that in most places, the police denied them permission to put up their stalls.

Migration

After the trains stopped working. A lot of people faced problems to reach their respective towns and villages. Hindu reporter Siddharth Yadav wrote this piece:

OTHER STATES

A long walk home for 30,000 tribal workers in M.P.

 **Siddharth Yadav**

BHOPAL, MARCH 27, 2020 21:28 IST
UPDATED: MARCH 27, 2020 21:28 IST

SHARE ARTICLE |  |  |  |  |  |  1 |  PRINT | A | A | A



Another 5,000-7,000 labourers bound for Vidisha and Ujjain, and as far as Morena and Gwalior districts, 630 km away, crossed Jhabua through the Lambela and Kanjawani entry points from Gujarat, he adds.

Handy list

Mr. Kharari says that during the Assembly byelection and Lok Sabha election last year, the administration appealed to migrant labourers to return to vote. “That list is coming in handy now. We have requested the Collectors in Gujarat to make them stay there and provide food and medical aid, yet they are returning.”

Over 5,000 labourers from Rajasthan and Gujarat had returned to the neighbouring Alirajpur district, mostly in hired pick-up trucks, while another 200 had crossed it, says S.C. Verma, Upper Collector, Alirajpur. “Luckily, many had returned in February for Bhagoria haat, a tribal festival. Otherwise, many others would have been left stranded.”

Ruchika Chouhan, Collector of Ratlam district, says that for those travelling to other districts, a barrier-free movement has been ensured. So far, 250 of the labourers from the district have returned. “Panchayat officials inform us whenever a new member enters villages. Accredited Social Health Activists and Auxiliary Nurse Midwives screen them for symptoms,” she explains.

Earlier, they migrated intra-State for agricultural labour, but mechanisation forced them to take up construction work in other States. “Labour from Madhya Pradesh is comparatively cheap. After they return, they may find work locally with the ongoing harvest season. But the little subsistence farming they did is hit by the untimely rain,” she says.

There were other reports of people stranded in different parts of the country wanting to come back to their respective hometowns.

Testimony

1. Jagdish Bhai, Social Worker, Rewa

He highlighted that the villagers are facing problems to get basic vegetables and grains in the villages. He is constantly getting calls from villages where people are asking for immediate help. Among others, he had telephonic conversation with a family having 10 members who are struggling to get food. They do not have ration card and no means to procure food.

Around 30-40 workers from Allahabad walked 100 kms to reach Rewa and as per the information, they were not tested or no medical checkup was done. They have reached their respective villages. This, according to Mr. Jagdish is a major issue. He feels that the infected people will go to their villages and infect others. The workers who are coming back from different states and cities are not being checked and this could lead to the rise in the number of cases in villages and considering that the medical facilities are not that established in villages, this could lead to unnecessary deaths.

Also, another issue that he raised was that the handpumps have crowds always. The water crisis is becoming a major problem amidst this crisis. People are still crowding for water near the handpumps and there is no other alternative. He cites Champagarh Village, Rewa district where the problem exists.

Even though the state has come up with all kinds of social benefit orders, their implementation remains to be seen. People are being allowed to harvest with certain restrictions. The situation has taken a major toll on the livelihood of people, especially among the tribal groups here. Although, the government has said that they will be providing assistance money to the tribals and villagers, it remains to be seen how this will be implemented. The agricultural labour working in Agra, Gwalior, Dholpur and other states is slowly making their way back to the district. The migratory labour however is not being medically checked properly and therefore there is a risk that villages will also see an influx of cases.

(True Copy)

Annexure P6**Status Report from the State of Uttar Pradesh****Introduction**

India reported its first coronavirus case on 30th January 2020 but in recent weeks the number of infections has climbed rapidly. As on 29th March 2020 India had over 1000 coronavirus cases with nearly 25 deaths. In Uttar Pradesh, out of 2283 people who have been examined a total of 68 persons have been tested positive while 52 reports are still awaited.

In order to contain the virus a 21 day lockdown was declared by the Indian Prime Minister.

Threat of rapidly growing virus borne infection and the declaration of sudden and unprepared lockdown has led to a large number of problems related to health, hunger, sanitation, food security, migration etc. In Uttar Pradesh, number of incidents has been reported across news platforms highlighting the hardships faced by the general public during the ongoing lockdown.

People's Suffering and Distress Migration

Over the last two-three days, thousands of poor and migrant labourers, as well as semi-skilled workers, were seen crossing the Delhi border on National Highway 24 along with their families on foot in order to get back to their native place mostly in Uttar Pradesh and

Bihar. According to the Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath around 1 Lakh people entered UP in last 3 days from neighboring states. However, neither any test facility was available to screen such migrants nor any record was prepared to subsequently trace and quarantine them.

With few transport options available, thousands of people, mostly young male day labourers but also families, have resorted to commuting on foot during the [21-day lockdown](#) that started on Wednesday.

"Many migrant workers feel they have no choice but to walk home.

They are walking along highways, along train tracks with no access to food, no access to basic sanitation," said Al Jazeera's Elizabeth Puranam, reporting from New Delhi.

(<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/coronavirus-lockdown-india-grapples-migrant-workers-exodus-200328151304900.html>)

A 38-year-old man, who had walked over 200 km from Delhi to reach his home in Madhya Pradesh after Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced a 21-day lockdown to stop the spread of coronavirus, died on the way.

Ranveer Singh, who worked as a delivery agent in Delhi, was among the thousands of migrants desperately trying to return to their hometowns and villages after they were left without jobs, shelter or money. Most of them have been covering a journey of hundreds of kilometres on foot, as all transport services are shut, including

passenger trains and interstate buses, in a bid to curb the spread of COVID-19.

(<https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/lockdown-delivery-agent-who-walked-200-km-from-delhi-amid-lockdown-dies-on-agra-highway-2202402>)

Hunger and Starvation

On Wednesday, a group of children were seen sitting cross-legged and eating grass, called “*akri*” in the local language. The six kids, about five years old, from the Musahar community, live in the Musahar Basti in Koiripur village in the Badagaon block of Varanasi district. They have been identified as Rani, Pooja, Vishal, Neerhu, Soni and Golu. Out of desperation and hunger, the children were eating the grass usually given to cattle as fodder from a wheat field in the village.

Of the ten families that reside in Musahri *basti*, there are about twelve kids under the age of ten. The earning members of most of the families, are daily wage earners and work in construction factories and brick kilns nearby. Due to the lockdown, sealed borders and suspended transportation, workers are stuck in different parts of the state, while others are sitting at home without any work, according to a reporter who lives close by and witnessed the children eating grass.

(<https://thewire.in/rights/varanasi-hunger-national-lockdown>)

According to a BBC report millions of Indians are facing threat on their survival. The lockdown announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on

Tuesday evening means they are now facing no prospect of income for the next three weeks. The likelihood is, some will run out of food in the coming days.

Indian Railways has now suspended all passenger services until 31 March.

But just days before the suspension kicked in on 23 March, hundreds of thousands of migrant workers travelled in packed trains from outbreak-hit cities like Delhi, Mumbai and Ahmedabad to their villages in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar states.

That has heightened the risk of community transmission and experts fear that the coming two weeks are the most challenging for India.

However, not everybody could afford to travel to their villages.

Kishan Lal, who works as rickshaw puller in the northern city of Allahabad, said he had not made any money in the past four days.

His friend Ali Hasan, who works as a cleaner in a shop, said he had run out of money to buy food.

"The shop shut down two days ago and I haven't been paid. I don't know when it will open. I am very scared. I have a family, how am I going to feed them?" he asked.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-52002734>

Another report of 'thewire.in' accounts the details of migrant workers who had left for their respective hometowns on foot.

No work meant no wage and no wage meant no food. "There would have been no way for us to survive," A worker said said.

"Where will we get some food?" asked Bhole Kumar, who also began walking on Wednesday night. He worked as a mason at a construction site, earning Rs 500 a day.

There is no cooked food around. The food stalls which would have otherwise lined this area are all shut due to the lockdown.

"*Corona se pehle bhook mar degi* (Hunger will kill us before the coronavirus)," he said.

(<https://thewire.in/labour/coronavirus-lockdown-migrant-workers-walking-home>)

Absence of Medical Aid

In Uttar Pradesh which has 75 districts, the lab test facility for coronavirus infection is only available at 8 hospitals/medical colleges, 3 of which are located in Lucknow alone. These medical institutes are:

- King's George Medical University, Lucknow
- Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
- Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Aligarh
- Command Hospital, Lucknow
- Lala Lajpat Rai Memorial Medical College, Meerut
- Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

- RIMS, Saifai
- Regional Medical Research Centre, Gorakhpur

Additionally, OPD at government hospitals were suspended in various districts of Uttar Pradesh.

(<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/noida/opds-closed-patients-flock-to-special-clinics-at-government-hospitals/articleshow/74783682.cms>)

Police Beating

In Uttar Pradesh, cops were seen forcing people to hop like frogs for simply being seen on the road during the curfew.

Videolink: <https://twitter.com/Zebaism/status/1243084378751651841>

These were migrant labourers returning to their native villages and towns after the Gwalior city factory that employed them in neighbouring Madhya Pradesh shut down. They were among the millions of poor, jobless Indians on the way back to their homes hundreds of kilometres away—on foot since public and private transport has come to a standstill across India.

In another incident a person who was going to buy medicine along with his wife was brutally beaten in Varanasi.

(<https://www.amarujala.com/uttar-pradesh/varanasi/lockdown-in-varanasi-police-beaten-a-man-who-going-hospital-with-wife-coronavirus>)

Similarly, a vegetable vendor was beaten in Noida for selling vegetables. (<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-52063286>)

(True Copy)

Annexure P7**BRIEF REPORT ON THE IMPACT OF LOCKDOWN IN NAGALAND**

Consequent upon the nationwide lockdown in the country since March 22, 2020 Nagaland is also affected with total lockdown on the mass movement of public. Although the state is reported to have no positive case on COVID-19, yet people are panic-stricken with the fear of infection, shortages of food supplies, lack of quality healthcare facilities, loss of income for the workers of unorganized sectors and private sector employees, entrepreneurs, hawkers

With the directive from the state government banning the hawkers, manual labourers from continuing their works in the state, hundreds of them across the state are losing their income. Most of the hawkers are sole bread earners in the family surviving on the meager daily income they earn from their small business. Same is the case for construction workers who have little or no saving at all and with the loss of their daily wage, most of them are compelled to leave the town and are gone back to their respective villages.

Nagaland is not equipped with medical facilities in the event of spread of COVID-19. People who entered the state after the outbreak of the pandemic are either home quarantined or kept in government schools. Healthcare providers are facing severe shortages of PPEs to combat the disease. Police personnel and youth volunteers on duty are also not provided with protective PPEs.

The Additional Deputy Commissioner had informed that Pfutsero which is a sub –division under Phek District Nagaland had identified quarantine and isolation room yet there is no equipment in the hospital. There are only 15 sets of PPEs for the healthcare workers under Tuensang District. The state is in dire need of PPEs for all the frontline healthcare providers, police, staffs from the administrations who are attending their duties daily. The state is also hit with lack of safety mask and hand sanitizers. Prior to the lockdown, the state's capital already ran out of hand sanitizers and surgical mask.

People living in the town are panic buying the rations which is a threat for the poor people who are surviving daily hand to mouth since they do not have the means to stock rations.

The pandemic is creating fear psychosis among the people due to lack of awareness among the general masses and lack of facilities in the state to combat the virus in the event of outbreak.

Panic buying: Vendors, shoppers at risk of infection?

Staff Reporter

DIMAPUR, MAR 27 (NPN): As panic buying continues in the State's commercial hub with shoppers and vendors not taking sufficient precautionary measures, the possibility of grocery stores and market areas becoming centres for COVID-19 outbreak cannot be ruled out.

Assurance from authorities that sufficient food stocks were available have not stopped anxious residents from resorting to panic buying and hoarding as large number of consumers thronged market places across the town on Friday.

In departmental stores, people were seen with loaded carts and baskets, while general stores and market places selling vegetables were packed with people.

Though so far Nagaland has not recorded



A crowded market place in Dimapur on Friday. (NP)

any COVID-19 positive case, it is imperative to note that 2,719 persons are under surveillance as on Friday, and that the State has so far sent only 17 samples for testing, out of which 13 have tested negative.

Experts have said the incubation period for the virus is 2-14 days. So it is very likely that the possible future COVID-19 patients, who are infected but unaware that the virus is incubating in

their bodies, could be one of those shoppers/buyers.

When this reporter visited daily markets across the town, most vegetable vendors were seen not following the prescribed preventive measures. While most of the shoppers wore masks, many of the vegetable vendors were seen without masks.

Also, there was no provision for hand washing or hand sanitizers at these markets, and not a single

market or store and shopper or vendor was seen maintaining the recommended social distancing of at least one metre (three feet).

In such a scenario, multiple touch and grab of shopping carts, door handles, boxes, packages, etc, or even human contact cannot be ruled out since such activities are almost unavoidable.

These unregulated activities carry a certain amount of risk at a time when there is very less information of this new virus. If district administration does not step in and come out with measures to prevent overcrowding at grocery stores and market places and ensuring that customers have access to their essential needs, then there is a high possibility of vendors and shoppers becoming the silent carriers of the deadly virus.

dedicated hospitals have been es- Mokokchung; and isolation wards district hospitals. Designated quar- items in the state.

Phek villages impose lockdown, set up quarantine facilities

Our Correspondent
Kohima, March 26 (IAPN): Joining the nationwide lockdown to contain the spread of novel coronavirus (Covid-19), most of the villages in Phek district have issued orders prohibiting visitors, including village members staying outside, from entering their respective villages. Besides, the villagers have also been restricted from travelling out of the village, except for emergency cases.

For the past few days, respective village councils have been issuing these restrictive orders to avoid any eventualities. In compliance with the government directives, villagers have set up quarantine facility at designated places, for people entering after a specific date set by the village councils. According to Aechohu Chuzho, the chairman of Khulazu Basa village council, "every citizen of the village arriving from other areas within Nagaland, post-March 29 shall be mandatorily quarantined at Government Primary School 'A' for a period of 14 days". This preventive measure



'No Entry' sign near the Wachu village gate in Phek district.

will be subjected to change with more stringent measures based on prevailing situation, he added. In a notification issued on March 24, the Dzullami village council stated that the entry into the village will be barred for its citizens from March 26 until further notice. It also restricted mass gathering, meeting, and wedding in an effort to maintain social distancing. In various places, roads were blocked and checkpoints were set up to restrict entry of vehicles. However, administration officials and

those on health emergencies are exempt from the restriction. The Phek village council, in its notification on March 25, informed that neither vehicles nor visitors would be allowed within its jurisdiction. Meanwhile, Sachin village in Phek district has banned outsiders from drawing water, washing clothes and vehicles within its jurisdiction. The border road that connects Manipur and Nagaland along Zhavame village in Phek district has been sealed due to the coronavirus

pandemic. The road was sealed as a preventive measure against the spread of Covid-19 after consultation between the state police, district administration and the village council. Shops to open from 7 am to 11 am in Phek district. In a revised order issued on March 26, the deputy commissioner of Phek, Sachin Jaiswal has directed all shops/outlets dealing with food grains, vegetables, food items and other essential commodities to keep open from 7 am to 11 am. However, pharmacies

and petrol pumps have been ordered to remain open as normal. The DC has urged the public to do their shopping during the specified period. "The order is applicable to entire district of Phek until further notice," it stated. Only one person per family should come out for purchase of essential commodities, and minimum of a metre distance should be maintained while purchasing, it stated. Except for procuring essential commodities and medical emergencies, vehicular movement is prohibited. All construction works—government and private, to be closed down. In case of funerals, not more than 20 persons will be permitted to assemble, the order added. Further, any person found violating will be punished as per the law, the DC warned.



galand? Struggling but no option, say daily wage earners

Govt mulling steps, informs CS

Atono Tsukrū Kense

Kohima | March 25

Are we really ready?

While officials in Kohima made no mention of equipment shortages, on Wednesday anxious civil society organizations, namely the Southern Angami Youth Organisation (SAYO) blocked off the NH 29 at Khuzama Police Check Gate under Kohima district on the grounds that the "Government of Nagaland has failed to provide medical team, medical equipments and facilities" at the Check Gate.

Subsequently, a meeting between representatives of SAYO, the Southern Angami Public Organization (SAPO) and SDO Civil Jakhama was held where it was agreed that the blockade would be lifted for on conditions that the administration would ensure the provision of all necessary equipment required for the protection of the public as well as frontline workers.

Khuzama village shares its boundary with the state of Manipur where the first case of COVID-19 infection in the North-east region was confirmed.

While the matter has since been 'resolved' a closer look into the incident at Khuzama today casts doubt on the 'preparedness' of the state in handling a possible outbreak.

As per details from Census 2011, Nagaland has a population of 19,78,502, which means Nagaland has one isolation bed per 8722 people.

This points to the possibility that the state might not have the capacity to handle an outbreak on the scale that other states in India has seen. While only a fraction would get sick if it spreads in a community, the absolute number of persons who need care would be large. The best bet for the state government would be in preventing such an outcome.

Meanwhile, the best option for citizens would be to hunker down and follow all guidelines issued by the state government.

The Nagaland government's lockdown enforced from March 22 midnight and the subsequent countrywide lockdown of the central government which came into effect from March 24 midnight, has placed daily wage earners and other labourers at the receiving end.

With citizens being compelled to remain indoors as precautionary and preventive measures towards the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, hundreds of labourers, women street vendors and daily wage construction workers both in the organised and unorganised sectors across the state, are facing uncertainty and insecurity. The lockdown has come as a big blow for their survival.

The state government is also yet to announce any package or provisions for those daily wage earners who struggle to make ends meet. When enquired on what steps have the state government being mulling for the daily wage earners, Chief Secretary Temjen Toy said the government is actively exploring ways to address the problem. "We are examining actively for the welfare of the daily wage earners. These are extraordinary times, and there are so many priorities so one by one we are trying to address it" said Toy.

Sole breadwinner of the family, Kama who vends at Bamboo Market, BOC, has borne the brunt of the lockdown. Expressing apprehension on the fate of her four children, she says "It's been just three days, but we are badly affected by the lockdown." She makes a daily income of Rs. 500-1000/- with which she feeds her family, pays rent and manages children's school fees. "We are living and surviving hand-to-mouth" said a worried Kama, mulling over the long challenging weeks that lie ahead. With no other source of income, the woman said "we have no option as this virus is the biggest problem now, and we have to sacrifice for the safety of all."

Mother of one, Akhone who vends at Razhū Point said "this is our only source of income and this lockdown has cut the lifeline of our daily needs." She said, many of her friends are worried about what to eat in the next few weeks, besides the rent, school fees etc. "We can only pray and hope that this virus will end soon and that we can do business as usual to run our families," she said.

Ketholeyū, a construction worker earns Rs. 700/- per day. Sharing his concern on survival during this lockdown period, the worried father of two says "Whatever we have saved over the few days, we have bought our rations which will run out in few days time. Now I am worried about the coming days." Ketholeyū lives in a rented room which costs him Rs. 2200/- per month.

Hundreds of daily wage earners like Kama, Akhone and Ketholeyū who are sole bread earners live in rented rooms and manage their family with the meager incomes. With this lockdown, they are faced with added challenges and problems of their own.

OWN

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Don't harass, assault public in the name of lockdown, says NPP

Dimapur, March 27 (EMN): While expressing its solidarity with the rest of India and the international community in the collective fight against the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic, and lauding the united efforts of the people to eradicate and contain the spread of the virus including the nation-wide lockdown declared by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the National People's Party (NPP) Nagaland state has raised some grave issues that have cropped up after the declaration of the lockdown.

In a press release issued on Friday, the NPP Nagaland unit while appreciating the humanitarian efforts of many people, especially doctors, nurses, paramedics and other health workers in containing the spread of the Covid-19, said that people enforcing the lockdown in the state have misunderstood the preventive measure and ended up harassing the common people.

"The authorities in Nagaland including the police and the lockdown enforcing village and colony youths' councils have grossly misunderstood the real concept of a lockdown and have created a situation akin to a total curfew during a war-like situation. Instead of having a human apathy towards fellow citizens at this time of crisis, they are harassing the common people,

especially the helpless ones, which is totally against all human ethics especially Nagaland being a Christian State where we must show examples of compassion and love towards our fellow human beings," the press release read.

Stating that the government of India has never given an advisory to any state prohibiting individuals from venturing out of their homes to buy essential commodities, medicines, etc., for their families or for emergency purposes including funerals, the party said "the police and the village / colony authorities should understand this and avoid harassing and physically assaulting the public in the name of lockdown".

"Various organisations should also not take law in their hands at this crucial juncture which may worsen the situation and may result in total breakdown and chaos. NPP Nagaland would therefore request (to) all concerned to show utmost restraint while dealing with the situation at present," the statement read.

The party has appealed to the general public to co-operate with the government and authorities, stay at home and as far as possible and let "only" one person from each family to venture out for buying essential commodi-

ties as per the scheduled time to avoid any untoward situation.

It went on to request the state government, especially the concerned departments 'to come up with an immediate and well-streamlined policy to deal with the pandemic like procuring enough ventilators, setting up quarantine centres in all the districts, keeping enough ambulances as standby to deal with any eventuality, and most importantly to procure enough testing kits, hazmat suits, masks and hand sanitisers so that in the eventuality of an outbreak, the state would be adequately prepared for the worst'.

"We also request the state government to ensure that there is free flow of essential commodities in the market and authorities concerned of all the districts should strictly deal with grocery shops and pharmacies, which are trying to hoard goods and charging exorbitant prices from the public," the statement read, adding that a clear-cut policy should be drawn with assistance from the Centre to help the daily wage earners, the homeless beggars and those stranded in various states due to the lockdown.

"The Police department also should be sensitised to be more humane in their dealing towards the public, who are already petrified by the pandemic," it added.

STATE

Covid-19: Tuensang district has only 15 PPE suits for healthcare workers

Our Reporter

Dimapur, March 28 (EMN):

While chaos caused by misinformation about the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) has gripped the densely populated towns in Nagaland, government officials and civil society organisations in Tuensang district, which is hundreds of kilometre away from areas with proper facilities and infrastructure, are doing all they could to tackle the virus.

The district administration along with the chief medical officer (CMO), police and other organisations under the Tuensang Chamber of Commerce (TCC) are said to have made containment of Covid-19 outbreak their utmost priority.

CMO of Tuensang Dr. I Moatenjen Jamir told *Eastern Mirror* that 70 personal protective equipment (PPE) suits have been ordered for healthcare workers.

"We have only 15 PPE suits which is not even sufficient for a day, so 70 more have been ordered for health workers coming in contact with suspected cases," said Jamir.

Jamir maintained that



White circles marked by the authorities at Chare village in Tuensang district, to help the public follow social distancing, as a measure to contain the Covid-19 outbreak.

getting more PPE suits would also boost the confidence of the healthcare workers and the requirement for the suits would be more if situation worsens.

"There is no cure at the moment so the need to prepare with PPE, masks, sanitisers and ventilators is the

need of the hour," Jamir said, adding that 10 ventilators have been ordered from the directorate.

"The officials have assured that whatever requirements the district needs will be given," said Jamir.

The president of TCC also informed *Eastern Mirror* that

many organisations and individuals including churches have donated money to the district administration to fight against Covid-19.

"The ENPD, NCS Tuensang team, CHET, Police Church and many other individuals have donated for fighting against the virus,"

said the TCC president.

As on March 28, 611 passengers were screened out of which 152 have been kept in home quarantine, and six have already completed their quarantine period.

Meanwhile, the deputy commissioner (DC) of Tuensang, Kumar Ramnikant, has informed through a notice that four quarantine centres -- Navarin Lodge, KC Lodge, East Wind Lodge and the old Circuit House -- have been set up as a measure to prevent and contain the outbreak of coronavirus. The DC also directed field officers to provide water supply to the quarantine centres.

In another directive, the DC informed that any women under the district of Tuensang who face any form of domestic violence, rape or sexual harassment while being quarantined should immediately report to the One Stop Centre, district administration, women organisations, legal services or the police. The authorities and organisations are to immediately report such cases to Nagaland State Commission for Women, the notice added.

Quarantine, isolation room identified but no equipment in Pfutsero

Our Correspondent

Kohima, March 28 (EMN): One building has been identified for quarantine and another isolation room identified in the hospital of Pfutsero town, but there is no equipment, informed Additional Deputy Commissioner of Pfutsero, Phuleshe K Yepthomi.

He told *Eastern Mirror* that at the moment 'the best thing the doctors can do for people coming from outside (the town) is to check if there is any symptom or not'.

He also informed that no sample has been sent for testing till date but people coming from outside are being home quarantined. Following the nation's lockdown, he stated, the residents of the town are allowed to go out to buy essential goods from 6 am to 12 noon, and only one member from a household is allowed to go out to buy goods or collect ration.

In the afternoon, all the shops are closed except for pharmacies and petrol outlets, no public movement is allowed in the town, and in within colonies as well, he said, adding that the police along with the adminis-

tration, NGOs and youth organisations are looking after the situation.

Yepthomi stated that those who broke the rules and roamed around were arrested and then released after making them sign a bond that they would not repeat the offence. He advised the residents to "stay home and stay safe".

Earlier on March 24, he had issued an order asking all the village and town councils in Pfutsero sub-division to restrict movement of public, especially those coming from outside. He also asked the people to avoid gatherings.

"Immediately earmark designate council hall or village rest houses or other places as quarantine zone," the order read. He also asked the council to get in touch with local healthcare workers in case of any exigencies.

A resident of Pfutsero also said that they have made a rule not to allow residents from one colony or ward to enter other colonies during the lockdown, and those venturing out were not allowed to return.

COVID-19: Frontline health workers face shortages of protective gears, stigma - I

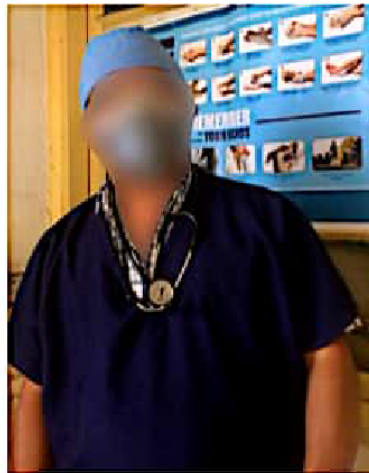
Atono Tsukru Kense

Kohima | March 28

The COVID-19 pandemic has come down heavily on people all across the world. And in Nagaland, the efforts to combat a possible outbreak seem to be weighing heavily on frontline health workers (FLHWs) who face an increased risk of catching the disease because of the nature of their work.

While the state government and the medical department have both been laying preparatory ground work for COVID-19 response, there have been credible reports of frontline health workers facing severe shortage of Personal Protective Equipment, N95 masks, gloves and sanitisers even in hospitals that are functioning as COVID-19 isolation wards.

There were also reports that landlords of some nurses have asked them to vacate their rooms, or find other places if they continue to work in the hospitals. Some nurses are also being dissuaded by



still wearing the usual operation uniforms while dealing with suspected COVID-19 patients, he said. While many hospitals have started making their own PPEs out of sheer necessity, the doctor observed that such custom-made PPEs are not made not according to guidelines and cannot guarantee the safety and security of the ones using it.

simple surgical masks and not the recommended N95 masks, and that there are only 10 PPEs in the Naga Hospital Authority Kohima for the technicians.

"We have some PPEs for immediate use, but if it continues like this and we don't receive the safety equipment on time, we will be in trouble if the outbreak reaches us," said a top doctor who did not want to be named. The doctor said that the government placed the orders for PPEs and ICU ventilators well ahead of time but "our main worry is whether the equipment will be delivered on time."

Though the matter is being pursued at the highest level to process the transportation at the earliest, "nobody can guarantee when the things will arrive."

"We will be in trouble unless the state government, in coordination with the central government urgently intervenes and try to take action in the line," he reiterated.

Another doctor revealed that the nationwide lockdown started

work.

Speaking to The Morung Express on condition of anonymity, a doctor manning the isolation ward of a government hospital said there is severe shortage of PPEs, N95 masks, gloves and sanitisers in the hospitals. We only have enough PPEs for medical technicians who come into contact with the suspected patients. PPEs are not reusable and are discarded after one use.

He also highlighted the shortage of hand sanitisers in all the district hospitals and said that the government has cited the nationwide total lockdown as the cause of shortage. However, the doctor pointed out that medical equipment does not come under the purview of the lockdown and said "if the government is willing, it can hire a special chartered plane and bring the life saving equipment and gears."

Several doctors are reportedly

he purchased days ago for a public presentation is a life saver at the moment.

Another problem, he highlighted is the absence of security personnel for suspected COVID-19 patients, where there is a chance and danger of the patient escaping while being relocated. The problem has been put up with the department time and again, he said adding matter-of-factly "there is a chance of the patient getting agitated and we can't just go and manhandle our patient and the chances of contracting the virus are very high."

"We are in the battlefield without shields and weapons. Now we can only pray to God that we don't contract the virus because now is not the time for us to say that 'I won't go to work'. Now is the time for us to jump in and fight," stated the doctor.

Meanwhile, it was also learnt that the directorate has provided

dispatched and some batches are stranded in transit. As such, he said the department is trying to trace out the address and location of the factories and vehicles in order to forward it to higher authorities.

Cops just as worried

Another wing of the government machinery is also facing a similar dilemma. According to police officials, the Nagaland Police's biggest concern is its personnel getting exposed to the virus in the line of duty if things turn for the worse in the state. As a law enforcement agency, a police official said they are required to enforce the lockdown and as seen in other countries, they would even be called up to apprehend uncooperative people suspected of infection.

"I dread the situation coming to such a stage. I hope the government is aware of it," said one police official.

MORUNG EXPRESS

THE POWER OF TRUTH

Cruciate between good and evil — Marcus Tullius Cicero

Was the state govt caught sleeping?

Morung Express News

Dimapur | March 28

In the midst of an evolving COVID-19 situation in India, governmental response in the states has become a great concern. In Nagaland, the initial sense of assurance projected by the state government in February has today turned to worry as frontline health workers compelled to attend to the call of duty without adequate personal safety gear cry out in frustration. The worry, further compounding as reports emerge of Nagaland-bound consignments of protective gear held

up in transit as a result of the nationwide lockdown. While the government certainly took steps, the question is how swiftly decisions were taken to acquire the requisite equipments? As per information gathered by The Morung Express from various sources, the state placed the order for basic emergency requirements and first line essential medicines as early as the first week of February. That was not long after India's first COVID-19 cases were reported in Kerala. It consisted of around 800-900 PPE sets or suits and vials for collecting and transporting swab samples.

However, the orders that followed came only in March and by which time emergency equipment supplies were running short across India. Order for thermal scanners, alcohol hand rubs or sanitizers, more PPEs and other necessary items only came in the subsequent purchase orders. Further, in the face of soaring demand and early birds acquiring thermal sensors/scanners, Nagaland could acquire only 10 such scanners. As revealed by the sources, the original requirement was 24. Meanwhile, the Prime Minister announced the nationwide

lockdown on March 24, stranding emergency equipments destined for Nagaland in various stages of transit; some in as far away as Mumbai. Shutdown of couriers made it worse. Late on March 27 evening, The Morung Express received inputs of the first batch of the stranded equipments reaching Nagaland. It mostly consisted of PPEs. While department officials were reluctant to admit of the development initially, one official confirmed it in the afternoon today. It was not long before the Chief Minister made the announcement in the evening on March 28.

(True Copy)

Annexure P8

Ministry of Finance

Finance Minister announces Rs 1.70 Lakh Crore relief package under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana for the poor to help them fight the battle against Corona Virus

Posted On: 26 MAR 2020 5:12PM by PIB Delhi

- Insurance cover of Rs 50 Lakh per health worker fighting COVID-19 to be provided under Insurance Scheme.
- 80 crore poor people will get 5 kg wheat or rice and 1 kg of preferred pulses for free every month for the next three months.
- 20 crore women Jan Dhan account holders to get Rs 500 per month for next three months.
- Increase in MNREGA wage to Rs 202 a day from Rs 182 to benefit 13.62 crore families
- An ex-gratia of Rs 1,000 to 3 crore poor senior citizen, poor widows and poor disabled
- Government to front-load Rs 2,000 paid to farmers in first week of April under existing PM Kisan Yojana to benefit 8.7 crore farmers
- Central Government has given orders to State Governments to use Building and Construction Workers Welfare Fund to provide relief to Construction Workers

The Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman today announced Rs 1.70 Lakh Crore relief package under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana for the poor to help them fight the battle against Corona Virus. While addressing the press conference here today, Smt. Sitharaman said "Today's measures are intended at reaching out to the poorest of the poor, with food and money in hands, so that they do not face difficulties in buying essential supplies and meeting essential needs."

The Minister of State for Finance & Corporate Affairs Shri Anurag Singh Thakur was also present besides Shri Atanu Chakraborty, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and Shri Debashish Panda, Secretary, Department of Financial Services. Following are the components of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package: —

PRADHAN MANTRI GARIB KALYAN PACKAGE

I. Insurance scheme for health workers fighting COVID-19 in Government Hospitals and Health Care Centres

Safai karamcharis, ward-boys, nurses, ASHA workers, paramedics, technicians, doctors and specialists and other health workers would be covered by a Special insurance Scheme.

Any health professional, who while treating Covid-19 patients, meet with some accident, then he/she would be compensated with an amount of Rs 50 lakh under the scheme.

All government health centres, wellness centres and hospitals of Centre as well as States would be covered under this scheme approximately 22 lakh health workers would be provided insurance cover to fight this pandemic.

II. PM Garib Kalyan Ann (अन्न) Yojana

- The Government of India would not allow anybody, especially any poor family, to suffer on account of non-availability of foodgrains due to disruption in the next three months.
- 80 crore individuals, i.e, roughly two-thirds of India's population would be covered under this scheme.
- Each one of them would be provided double of their current entitlement over the next three months.
- This additionality would be free of cost.

Pulses:

- To ensure adequate availability of protein to all the above mentioned individuals, 1 kg per family, would be provided pulses according to regional preferences for next three months.
- These pulses would be provided free of cost by the Government of India.

III. Under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana,

Benefit to farmers:

- The first instalment of Rs 2,000 due in 2020-21 will be front-loaded and paid in April 2020 itself under the PM KISAN Yojana.

- It would cover 8.7 crore farmers

IV. Cash transfers Under PM Garib Kalyan Yojana:

Help to Poor:

- A total of 20.40 crores PMJDY women account-holders would be given an ex-gratia of Rs 500 per month for next three months.

Gas cylinders:

- Under PM Garib Kalyan Yojana, gas cylinders, free of cost, would be provided to 8 crore poor families for the next three months.
- Help to low wage earners in organised sectors:
- Wage-earners below Rs 15,000 per month in businesses having less than 100 workers are at risk of losing their employment.
- Under this package, government proposes to pay 24 percent of their monthly wages into their PF accounts for next three months.
- This would prevent disruption in their employment.
- Support for senior citizens (above 60 years), widows and Divyang:

- There are around 3 crore aged widows and people in Divyang category who are vulnerable due to economic disruption caused by COVID-19.
- Government will give them Rs 1,000 to tide over difficulties during next three months.

- MNREGA
- Under PM Garib Kalyan Yojana, MNREGA wages would be increased by Rs 20 with effect from 1 April, 2020. Wage increase under MNREGA will provide an additional Rs 2,000 benefit annually to a worker.
- This will benefit approximately 13.62 crore families.

V. Self-Help groups:

- Women organised through 63 lakhs Self Help Groups (SHGs) support 6.85 crore households.
- Limit of collateral free lending would be increased from Rs 10 to Rs 20 lakhs.

VI. Other components of PM Garib Kalyan package

Organised sector:

- Employees' Provident Fund Regulations will be amended to include Pandemic as the reason to allow non-refundable advance of 75 percent of the amount or three months of the wages, whichever is lower, from their accounts.
- Families of four crore workers registered under EPF can take benefit of this window.
- Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Fund:
- Welfare Fund for Building and Other Constructions Workers has been created under a Central Government Act.
- There are around 3.5 Crore registered workers in the Fund.

- State Governments will be given directions to utilise this fund to provide assistance and support to these workers to protect them against economic disruptions.

District Mineral Fund

The State Government will be asked to utilise the funds available under District Mineral Fund (DMF) for supplementing and augmenting facilities of medical testing, screening and other requirements in connection with preventing the spread of COVID-19 pandemic as well as treating the patients affected with this pandemic.

(True Copy)

Annexure P9

Concerned Citizens' Response to the COVID 19 Relief Package
Announced by the Finance Minister Emergency Measures Proposed
and Endorsed by 635 People only Half-Met

Finance Minister (FM) Nirmala Sitharaman has announced a 1.7 lakh crore package to deal with the economic fallout of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. While we welcome that the Union Government is finally addressing this issue, it would have been appropriate to make such an announcement prior to a lockdown so that lakhs of migrant workers would not have panicked and travelled, creating distress and health hazards. The package is wide-ranging in scope but falls short of what is needed to support the poor and to prevent a deepening of the ongoing economic slowdown. Since several states have already announced measures, it is critical that central and state governments work together for smooth operationalisation of relief measures.

635 people, including prominent academics, civil society activists, and policy analysts, sent a letter to the Central and State governments, appealing for a minimal set of emergency measures to deal with the crisis. The appeal focussed on the vulnerable (particularly the unorganised sector, consisting of over 90% of our workforce). From their perspective, FM's relief measures are highly inadequate for even the coming three weeks with some sense of confidence. The FM's

announcement of Rs 1.7 lakh crore, is less than half of the 3.75 lakh crores required to fulfil the minimal “emergency measures” suggested in the appeal endorsed by 635 people. The calculation of 3.75 lakh crores only referred to an emergency cash relief of Rs 7,000 per household. The appeal also emphasised that access to any rights and entitlements should not depend on Aadhaar-based biometric systems owing to possible spread of infection through touch. The FM’s relief measures also fall short of the measures suggested in the appeal with relation to the ongoing programmes on pensions, rations and programmes for farmers and workers. More specifically:

Ration: The announcement of 5 kg of rice/wheat per person free for next three months and one kg pulse per family is welcome. But there is no mention of vulnerable families excluded from the PDS system. States such as Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu and Kerala have gone further in assuring food security including delivery of cooked food to the urban poor who are without functional kitchens. To make sure this works, the government must ensure home delivery of rations as well as ensure a minimum of two cooked meals at feeding centres that could include Aanganwadis, government schools, government colleges, community halls, army areas etc. For this to work safely, there must be at least 70 such feeding centres per 1 lakh people, open 12 hours a day. In the current scenario, the government should have made provisions to ensure doorstep delivery

of ration to avoid overcrowding at the distribution centres but no such promise was made.

MGNREGA: The FM's announcement of providing an average of 2000 rupees extra per household through MGNREGA is a misnomer. In fact, the wage rate increase, which was announced three days ago, was a regular adjustment against inflation which is made every year. This cannot be called an "additional resource" as the FM mentions and even now the Central government has not adhered to the constitutional provision of minimum wages for MGNREGA. It would be far more effective for each MGNREGA worker to be paid the full notified minimum wage rate for every day of the lockdown at a time when MGNREGA works have been shut to prevent proximity. FM's advisory on social distancing norms for MGNREGA isn't pragmatic as accessing and working in MGNREGA involves several processes with significant physical proximity. Given that a large number of migrant workers have returned to their native villages in light of lockdowns, many more rural residents will need work under MGNREGA over the next year. In such extraordinary circumstances, the number of days of work per rural household should not be limited to 100 days per year. The categories of permissible works should also be expanded to include specific personal and collective kinds of work.

Cash transfer to Pensioners: Support extended to pension beneficiaries of Rs 1000 for three months is also inadequate. This is

only an increase of INR 500. Some states are already providing more and have doubled this amount (e.g. Delhi). Also payment should be given in advance for 2-3 months. Rajasthan, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh have announced the advance payment of pensions for two-three months in one go by the first half of April. Every pension beneficiary must be provided Rs 1000 per month in advance for three months i.e. April, May, June.

Lack of Attention to Pregnant Women and Mothers: While PMMVY (Rs 5000 cash transfer for pregnant women and mothers) is itself a dilution of the entitlements under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), the FM's announcement had no mention about it. Lakhs of women critically depend on it.

Since Aadhaar-based cash withdrawal should not be an option and with perennial overcrowding in rural banks, it's not clear how pregnant women and lactating mothers can get access to even their existing entitlements.

Cash Transfer to Jan Dhan Yojana: Support extended to Jan Dhan Yojana (JDY) account holders of Rs 500 per month for three months is inadequate. Every JDY account holder should be paid at the daily wage rate of notified agricultural minimum wages of states, for 26 days per month, for the next three months. This must

be made universal and not as per Government's identification of only "poor households" as suggested in the FM's address.

Cash transfer to Construction Workers: A majority of the construction workers in the country are not registered under the Building and other Construction Workers Board. Restricting the provision of emergency support using the State's BoCW Fund to only registered workers is inadequate. Benefits under the BoCW Board must be extended to each and every construction worker in states, whether or not they are registered under the Board. Every MGNREGA worker who has completed at least 25 days of work under MGNREGA in the FY 2019-20 must be automatically enrolled as a BoCW Registered Worker so that the former can avail of the social security net available to the latter. Further, the Centre should work closely with states to implement this.

PM-KISAN: The first installment of INR 2000 for PM KISAN is to be given to 8.7 crore farmers. But the actual number of PM-Kisan beneficiaries is close to 14 crores. It is not clear why the cash transfer is not implemented for all farmers. In addition a one time payment of Rs 6000 to all tenant farmers, who are excluded from the scope of PM KISAN should be undertaken. Further a one time payment of Rs 6000 to all beneficiaries of the Forest Rights Act.

Assistance from District Mineral Foundation Trust: DMFT is a statutory fund that mandates use of funds to extend relief to mine

workers and those communities directly affected by mining. It is unethical to appropriate funds with the DMFT towards meeting health expenses such as screening and testing. The funds should instead be used to pay an immediate cash transfer to all mine workers in a district to the tune of Rs 6000 per month. Expenses related to testing and screening, which are undoubtedly essential and priority expenses to be incurred currently, should be financed through the Rs 15000 crore package that was announced by the Prime Minister for meeting costs of health infrastructure.

Lack of attention on migrant labour: The FM started her speech that the support package will help millions of migrant labourers. However, no measures for migrant workers - who have been hit the hardest -- has been made clear. Many of them have started the journey back to their native villages on foot. The minimum that the Central Government must assure is to ensure safe transportation and passage to all the migrant labour who are attempting to reach their homes after the lockdown.

Moratorium on Loan Repayments: The Government must announce a moratorium on all loan repayments for loans taken from 1st January 2020 to date of Rs 5,00,000 and below.

For further details, please contact: Amit Basole (9619649948), Anindita Adhikari (9871832323), Debmalya Nandi (7294184845),

Nikhil Dey (9414004180), Rajendran Narayanan (9620318492),
Rakshita Swamy (9818838588)

(True Copy)

Annexure P10

Right to Food Campaign (Secretariat)

24, Block A, Adhchini, Sarvodaya Enclave, New Delhi
– 110017, India

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27 March, 2020

Right to Food and Covid-19

After three days of the nation-wide lockdown, the Finance Minister yesterday announced an economic package aimed at providing some relief and social security to the poor and informal sector workers whose livelihoods have been affected as a result of the hit on economic activity following the COVID 19 pandemic. The sudden closing down of all establishments and the suspension of most activities in order to maintain physical distancing has meant that millions of informal sector workers are left jobless. Many of these people depended on daily wages to meet even their most basic needs including food. In fact, even formal sector has been badly affected with a 'no work, no pay' situation now. Workers in factories, plantation units, handloom and crafts businesses, and so on have been facing the

brunt. Although delayed, it is welcome that the Government has finally woken up to the mass hunger and displacement that the lockdown is causing.

However, the measures announced are very inadequate in the context of the challenges that people are facing.

The package of measures under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY), mostly identify the correct schemes and programmes through which relief could be provided to people. But much more needs to be done. Doubling the foodgrains given under the Public Distribution System (PDS) and including pulses is something that the Right to Food Campaign had also been demanding, and if delivered effectively will definitely contribute to mitigating some of the hunger. However, this benefit is still restricted to those who already have ration cards under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) which would leave out many who are excluded. There are a number of exclusions in the PDS, especially of people belonging to very vulnerable communities such as migrant workers, homeless populations, nomadic tribes and so on. The need for biometric authentication mechanisms add to the problem by not only disallowing a lot of people from accessing these entitlements, but also require multiple people to touch the same scanner. For this reason, states like Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha have already stopped or limited their use of Aadhaar based biometrics. Further, since the ration cards were distributed based on the 2011 Census numbers, the coverage is also

lower than what is deemed under the NFSA due to increase in population.

We demand that the PDS entitlements be available to anyone who demands it, at least for the next three months. Simple measures of transparency and accountability can be put in place to ensure that there is no pilferage or stocking up of grain by the PDS dealers. One important measure would be to widely publicise the entitlements through various media. The delivery mechanism can be worked out to ensure that people arrive at the ration shops and other collection points in turns so as to not crowd. The ration for three months can also be given in advance.

The increase announced in the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) wages cannot really be considered as part of the special package. The MGNREGA wages are routinely updated every year keeping in line with the consumer price index. Over the last many years, the wages have not been rising sufficiently and are now much below the statutory minimum wage rates as well as the market wage rates in most states. This increase had already been announced on 23 March 2020, is grossly inadequate and not part of any additional measure. Further, currently due to the lockdown all MGNREGA worksites are closed. The announcement stated that a Rs. 20 increase in wage rate will result in additional Rs. 2000 income for all MGNREGA households in 2020-21. This assumes that all households will get 100 days of work which does not happen

even during normal times. Over the past five years, only 8 per cent of all households that could access any MGNREGA work got 100 days of work. What would be required is to clear all pending wages under MGNREGA immediately, and give a cash transfer to all the MGNREGA job card holding households to help tide through these months of slowdown.

Similarly, while the increases announced in the old age, widow and disabled pensions are welcome, as these are the most vulnerable groups, the amount is very meagre. Rs. 1000 over three months is hardly enough to cover for their basic needs. The central contribution to these social security pensions is as low as Rs. 200 and has not been enhanced since 2006. As a regular measure the central contribution should be increased to at least Rs. 1000 per month. The cash transfer to Jan DhanYojana bank accounts are also very small, of Rs. 500 a month. The PM-KISAN announcement also only involves payment of the benefit in advance but not an increase in the amount.

There have been some other measures announced such as using the construction workers welfare funds, district mineral fund and so on. Many of these are funds that have been by contribution from employers and employees in any case. Overall, it is not clear how the figure of Rs. 1.7 lakh crore worth of relief measures has been arrived at. Schemes that already existed and have not seen any major enhancements cannot be counted under relief measures. In fact, our estimates suggest that the additional spending taking into account

cash transfers to the Jan Dhan Yojana accounts, additional amount through social security pensions for old, widows and disabled, additional grain and pulses under PDS, cylinders under Ujjwala Yojana and EPFO contributions would come to less than Rs. 1 lakh crore. Expenditure on MGNREGA and PM-KISAN are already reflected in the Annual Budget and using construction worker welfare board funds, district mineral funds or giving additional loans to SHGs we believe cannot be included in the estimates of what the government is spending for relief measures.

In many places across the country, there are reports of people already being on the verge of starvation and desperately looking for food and other support. In the light of this, the measures that have been announced are lackluster and do not show the urgency required to respond to the gravity of the situation. Rather what we are witnessing is increased police repression where people, especially vendors and migrant workers, are being beaten up and humiliated in many ways for even being seen out on the roads. In these times of distress, the reports of food supplies being wasted and/or limited are severely disturbing, to say the least. We demand that the following measures be announced immediately:

1. Open up the PDS entitlements to everyone who demands it on the basis of any identity card that they have (in line with the Supreme Court order for drought, under the Swaraj Abhiyan case) and discontinue ePOS based verification mechanisms.

2. Include cooking oil and increase the quantity of pulses in the PDS package.
3. Make arrangements for distribution of cooked food, especially in urban areas through community kitchens, night shelters, schools and anganwadi centres. The more decentralized this facility is, the less crowded will be the feeding centres, making it possible to follow the norms of physical distancing.
4. Make immediate arrangements for accommodation of migrant workers stranded in public places like bus stops and railway stations with nowhere to go during this lockdown.
5. Provide all MGNREGA workers full payment– at not less than the state minimum wage rate– for the three months lockdown period irrespective of work being available.
6. Enhance the social security pension amounts to at least Rs. 2000 per month,
7. Provide maternity benefits of at least Rs. 6000 to all pregnant women, immediately, without any conditionalities.
8. Ensure unhindered inter/intra-state movement of goods transport vehicles carrying food and other essential items. The travel restrictions must not affect these items from reaching PDS shops or even regular grocery stores.

9. Establish a system where civil society organisations can give feedback to the government on the effectiveness of these measures. A functioning grievance redress system must also be put in place – this could build on the existing toll-free help line numbers, DGROs and state food commissions under the NFSA.
10. Households that have children who are school going/anganwadi beneficiaries should be given an equivalent amount of the meals as dry rations or food security allowance.
11. As mentioned by the Finance Minister in her speech, works that can be undertaken under MGNREGA and otherwise while maintaining the norms of physical distancing should be identified. Such work if allowed to continue must ensure that adequate safety and sanitary measures are put in place.
12. Mechanisms to help vegetables, fruits, milk etc. cultivated by farmers to reach consumers should put in place so that farmers do not suffer and consumers can get food without price escalation. Otherwise, farmers are having to destroy crops.
13. Action must be taken against the formal sector declaring 'no work, no pay', and not paying workers for lockdown.

It is also important that the delivery mechanisms for all these schemes are put in place in a sensitive manner. Accessing banks will be almost impossible for most of the beneficiaries. Some way of

making the cash available at the community will need to be worked out – through gram panchayats and banking correspondents.

(True Copy)

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

CIVIL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION

Writ Petition (Civil)_____of 2020

(Under Article 32 of the Constitution of India)

In the matter of:

Swami Agnivesh & Anr

...Petitioner

Versus

Union of India & Ors

...Respondents

**Application seeking exemption from filing official translations
of Annexures P1 to P10**

To

THE HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA

AND HIS COMPANION JUSTICES

OF SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

HUMBLE PETITION OF
THE PETITIONERS HEREIN

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

1. This petition is filed in public interest praying for immediate relief to the poor, informal sector workers, slum dwellers, homeless persons and economically weaker sections in the rural areas who are in the present situation of the spread of Corona Virus living with hunger, many of whom- men, women and children- may die

of starvation in the coming days if they do not get emergency food, medical aid and shelter immediately.

2. The contents of the petition are not being repeated here for the sake of brevity but same may be read as a part and parcel of this application.
3. That this petition is being moved in extreme urgency to secure relief for the migrant laborers, homeless and indigent persons who are stranded and starving on account of Covid 19 national health emergency lockdown. Consequently, petitioner is devoid of time and resources to obtain official translation of the annexures P1 to P10, which are only transcripts of video clips, news reports, etc.
4. This application is made in the interest of justice.
5. **Prayed**, therefore, that Your Lordships may be pleased to:
 - i. Exempt the petitioner from filing the official translations of Annexure P-1 to the petition;
 - ii. Pass any other order as it may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the present case.

AND FOR THIS ACT OF KINDNESS, THE PETITIONER AS IN DUTY BOUND SHALL EVER BE GRATEFUL.

Place: New Delhi

Filed on:

SATYA MITRA

(Advocate for Petitioner)

Filing Memo

To be supplied later.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL/CRIMINAL/ORIGINAL/APPELLATE/JURISDICTION

SLP /WP / CURATIVE PETITION OF 2020

In the matter of

Swami Agnivesh & Anr.

Appellant(s)
Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

Union of India & Ors.

Respondent(s)

VAKALATNAMA

I/We

Appellants(s)/Petitioner(s)/Respondent(s)/ Caveator (s)/ Opposite party in the above Suit/ Appeal/ Petition/ Reference do hereby appoint and retain **Mr. Satya Mitra**, Advocate of the Supreme Court to act and appear for me/us in the above Suit/ Appeal/ Petition/ Reference and or my /our behalf to conduct and prosecute (or defend) the same and all proceedings that may be taken in respect of my application connected with the same of any decree order passed therein, including proceedings in taxation and application for Review, to file and obtain return of documents, and to deposit and receive money on my/ or behalf in the said Suit Appeal/ Petition Reference and in application of Review, and to represent me/us and to take all necessary steps on my /our behalf in the above matter, I/We agree to ratify all acts done by the aforesaid Advocate in pursuance of this authority.

Dated this the _____ day of _____ 2019

Accepted

→ 1. *Swami Agnivesh*
2. *Nishant Goshal*
APPELLANT(s)/ CAVREATOR(s)/ PETITIONER(s)/
INTERVENOR(s)/ RESPONDENT(s)

(Mr. Satya Mitra)
Advocate on Record, Supreme Court

MEMO OF APPEARANCE

To,

The Registrar,
Supreme Court of India
New Delhi

Sir,

Please enter my appearance on behalf on the Petitioner(s) /Appellant(s)/ Respondent(s)/ Intervenor(s)/ Caveator(s) in the matter above mentioned.

Dated this the _____ day of _____ 2019

Yours faithfully,

Satya Mitra

(Satya Mitra)

New Delhi
Dated:

Advocate for Petitioner(s)/Appellant(s)/Respondent(s)/ Caveator (s)