

CORD's Comprehensive Panchayat Based Micro Level Action Report on COVID19 Prevention, Surveillance, Monitoring, Coordination, Mobilisation and Management in Rural Communities
(Till 30th June 2020)

Nationally, CORD's comprehensive work outreach is in **286 Gram Panchayats** (1130 Wards) and 09 Municipal Panchayats in six States covering **904 villages** (734 villages at CORD Sidhbari and its Satellite Sites in Utrakhand, Chamba & Punjab). Rest of 170 villages in Tamilnadu and Odisha and Andhra Pradesh (orphanage home for 104 girls).

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CORD team conducted Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA) of the existing COVID19 information, situation and ongoing efforts through the following prompt action.

1. To understand ground level situation on COVID19 in Panchayats from the Pradhans of 250 Panchayats associated with CORD's work in district Kangra, Himachal Pradesh
2. Telecon interactions with Community Based Organisations (CBOs) specifically Mahila Mandals (Women Groups), Self Help Groups (SHGs) and program associated like Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), Single women, migrant labourer and the poorest of the poor in the community
3. Telecon interactions with CORD sites in Himachal Pradesh (Kangra and Chamba (3 Panchayats) Odisha, Tamilnadu, Utrakhand, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, District administration (Additional Deputy Commissioner, Sub Divisional Magistrates (SDMs) and Non-Government Organisation (NGOs) in H.P and other parts of the country like Mission Samridhi, Pradan, Doers etc.
4. Observations based on various ongoing trends and pattern observed by our teams directly in their own villages, field areas feedback, network of people and organisations with CORD like STARs Forum (National forum of committed NGOs working for rural prosperity and skilling, District Inter Agency Group (DIAG) in Kangra (where CORD is convenor too) and Himachal Pradesh, H.P State Disaster Management Authority (HPSDMA), expert persons in disaster management.
5. Dr.Kshama Metre and Dr. Sudhir Prabhu (USA), founder Trustees of STARs Forum developed comprehensive guidelines on prevention and precautions of COVID19 spread and role of general public in rural areas. These guidelines were inclusive and expanded on the guidelines of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. These guidelines were translated in Hindi and local languages i.e. Kanad, Tamil, Marathi, Oriya etc for wide public circulation in villages.

Under the instructions and guidance of National Director, Dr. Kshama Metre, CORD has completely suspended its direct operations from its Centre in Sidhbari and other places in India immediately after the lockdown announced by the government of India, State government and district administration.

To ensure safety and security of our team members, CORD educated their all team members on what COVID19 is and how to manage its spread with unfailing social distancing, not face touch, hand hygiene and staying at home. All our team members in their home are also

following government guidelines specially in the area of social distancing and isolations/quarantines, as and wherever required. Immediately after the announcement of lockdown by the government, CORD has transferred salaries of its all team members for the month of March 2020 and 50% advance salary for next two months i.e. April and May 2020. All team members are consistently and persistently working from their homes through emails, mobile phones, conference calls, whatsapp messages with the Community Based Organisations (CBOs) leaders/members i.e. Mahila Mandals/Self Help Groups/Panchayat leaders in the villages/Panchayats. This way they are not only ensuring best possible management of their assigned work but are making people more aware in rural communities to follow safety, precautions, surveillance, implementation of required action, monitoring of COVID19 situation in CORD's area of operation in around 850 villages of over 280 Panchayats under comprehensive integrated rural development work.

CORD sites Directors and team leaders are coordinating, assisting and extending all possible support to our team members in the field operations through teleconferences/phone calls, regular contacts/updates strategically on daily basis responding amidst the ongoing and changing situations/guidelines of government on the prevention of spread of COVID19.

Chief Operating Officer CORD, Shri Narender Paul conducted telecon with Pradhans, teams, and different stakeholders of the Panchayats for 5-10 minutes durations to understand:

- Any case reported on COVID19 in their Panchayat, district from abroad, from India or within State itself
- Any problem in reporting, quarantine, cases hiding themselves etc

He concluded the following in his findings with telephonic interactions with several Pradhans of the Panchayats in district Kangra (over 200 Panchayats). Two types of situations have emerged in Panchayats which need urgent attention and action accordingly:

Category 1: People arriving from other countries in Himachal Pradesh

Category 2: People arriving from other States of India to Himachal Pradesh

Panchayat Pradhans were facing challenges in terms of convincing both category of people to report and ensure precautions specially **“social distancing especially self-quarantine in themselves”** with their families as well as other households/relatives in the villages/other villages/Panchayats. Many of them were freely wandering, mixing-up with other, playing cards at tea shops etc in the villages and in spite of Pradhan's dire requests they are not listening but quarrelling/fighting with them.

There was a great need of District Administration to take steps by issuing a simple *letter of appreciations and empowerment through whatsapp through concerned Block Development Officers (BDO)* to Panchayat Pradhans/elected body (inclusive of Up-Pradhan and Ward Panchs) to become strict with back-up of strong administrative support and action for enforcing *social distancing and isolation/home quarantine* for both abovementioned 1 and 2 categories of arrivals/arrived in their Panchayats. This was to not only to ensure betterment of the concerned person's own health and their whole family health but safety of all villagers/Panchayat residents amidst this highly contagious and disastrous phase of community spread of pandemic COVID19.

National Director CORD has written in this reference from greater engagement of Panchayats with its elected members, through an email dated 23rd March 2020 and email dated 25th March 2020 to Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh with copies to Chief Secretary, Rural Development Secretaries, Rural Development Minister and Deputy Commissioner, Kangra. This deeper and microlevel prevention, surveillance, action and monitoring would enable us to fight against this crucial phase of spread of COVID19 in rural India.

We greatly admire government, district administration, police and health department and many other unseen people working on all possible administrative, health measures and action being taken towards prevention and management of pandemic COVID19.

Chief Operating Officer CORD had conversation with Ms. Anuradha Thakur (IAS) in Delhi who was IAS (Secretary (Irrigation and Public Health) and Deputy Commissioner Kangra in H.P earlier). Narender has shared an email sent from Dr. Kshama Metre's side to Chief Minister of H.P. She has assured that she would share these emails and write letter to Land Revenue department H.P for urgent micro-level action towards prevention of spread of COVID19.

Narender has written from CORD a letter to Deputy Commissioner Kangra with copies to ADC, ADM Kangra and all SDMs for needful action at the microlevel.

CORD have seen in multiple examples of crisis earlier where communities have their own ways and resilience to manage many situations/disasters and get out of it successfully. Unfortunately, most of the core coordinating agencies either overlook this aspect or not having faith or able to build trust and harness communities properly for better management/outcomes.

On our repeated coordination with district administration for any need of collaboration, finally district administration asked us not to "volunteer" as they don't need volunteer now. Only Volunteer they need to stay at home during this next two weeks and follow guidelines of government from time to time.

CORD is in touch/communication through telecons with our Panchayat leaders and Community Based Organisations (CBOs) in communities through CORD team in over 280 Panchayats and requesting people for addressing this micro-level issues by managing it well as explained above.

Beside above, all CORD team members are sincerely praying to Lord and mother Divine to enable all humanity including India out of this situation as soon as possible by their blessings in our us with action full of wisdom and interconnectedness.

CORD is in communication with various DIAGs and HPSDMA through Mr. Navneet Yadav (State volunteer and consultant) to understand ground level situations in various districts. Google format for exchange of idea created and exchange going on to know about ground level efforts, innovations, collaborations etc of various volunteers/organisations/agencies for mutual learning and sharing of best practices too.

On 2nd April 2020, Prime Minister of India announced District Disaster Management Groups formation. CORD too is working for futuristic and long term need and plan of action at Panchayat level in coordination with district administration and agencies to manage this crisis and disaster of COVID19 with effective community engagement based on principles

of Community Based Disaster Management plan for Panchayat being fulcrum for managing action locally and effectively. There is letter from NITI Aayog for the engagement of Civil Society Organisations/NGOs in managing COVID19 situation and related required relief and awareness works. Two letters from State Rural Development department and HPSDMA were issued for all Deputy commissioners to engage NGOs and DIAG in the districts and Panchayat Secretaries for managing situations of migrant labourers and needy people in their Panchayats with appropriate relief measures.

CORD is closely monitoring and supporting needs and health issues of migrant labourers' in two Blocks i.e. Nagrota Bagwan and Dharamshala through its team members i.e. Ms. Neena and Ms. Manpreet (MPWF) working as health worker under Urban RCH program of National Health Mission (NHM) with government health department.

Brief report sent to Deputy Commissioner Kangra through email dated 6th April 2020:

CORD is following strict guidelines of government under district administration Kangra by volunteering through our all comprehensive program team members working as volunteer from their homes in close collaboration with communities before commencement of lockdown amidst the pandemic of COVID19.

This is a note just to update you with the CORD's efforts under the well experienced and dynamic leadership of our National Director, Dr. Kshama Metre towards prevention of spread of COVID19 as well as rural development in rural areas in India including district Kangra, Himachal Pradesh. CORD is working deeper at microlevel Panchayat based awareness and prevention amidst the ongoing community spread phase of COVID19. All team have taken different need-based initiatives and interventions in the local areas through effectively designed communication strategy as mentioned below too.

1. We at CORD too are strictly following government's decision of three-weeks lockdown/curfew to ensure prevention of spread of COVID19. CORD teams are working in Himachal Pradesh, Odisha, Tamilnadu, Uttarakhand, Punjab and Andhra Pradesh in its areas of operation to ensure best possible contribution in prevention of spread of deadly COVID19 with the following measures/actions under kind guidance and leadership of site Directors in the respective sites as a team Nationally.
2. Continuously appraising Prime Minister office and office of Chief Minister, Himachal Pradesh on commendable efforts of district administration under your leadership and coordination with various departments as well as our program team's feedback on ground realities/community needs from CORD's programs/area of operation in 11 Development Blocks of district Kangra.
3. To ensure safety and security of our team members, all our team members in their home are also following government guidelines specially in the area of social distancing and isolations/quarantines, as and wherever required. They are consistently and persistently working from their homes through mobile phones, whatsapp messages with the Community Based Organisations (CBOs) leaders/members i.e. Mahila Mandals/Self Help Groups/Panchayat leaders in the villages/Panchayats.

4. Our teams are in communication with over 650 Mahila Mandals (Women Groups) inclusive of 2200 Self Help Groups (SHG) of over 26000 women facilitated and nurtured by CORD in district Kangra. Besides this we are in constant communication with **Presidents (over 50% of them are women!)** of over 200 Panchayats to ensure the communities are strictly following authentic guidelines (based on Ministry of Health, Government of India and WHO) of the government under your district administration.
5. Teams are making people more aware in rural communities to follow surveillance, implementation of required action, monitoring of COVID19 situation in our area of operation in villages/Panchayats under comprehensive integrated rural development work.
6. **Information dissemination** by our teams include guidelines on staying at home, hand washing, social distancing, reporting people returned home from abroad or outside H.P, referring needy people to right persons to seek right information/advice, home quarantine, precautions and safe behaviour while outdoor/shopping for needy food material etc, follow continued guidelines of health department and other government department. Communities are being guided for any need or services during lockdown period as per the guidelines of law and order communicated and coordinated by the concerned Sub Divisional Magistrates (SDMS) under your leadership as per the existing and ongoing situation of COVID19.
7. Over a period of 34 years work of CORD in district Kangra, CORD's comprehensive integrated program design and "empowering development" vision has been ensuring that people are taking care of their any needs, social or economic even amidst ongoing crisis of pandemic COVID19. In fact, CORD's integrated program has enabled community members as "partner/contributor" in the process of their development and empowerment beyond just becoming as a mere "beneficiary" under any program. For example, **CORD's Community Based Inclusion and Rehabilitation (CBIR) Program** with 2000 Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in 100 Panchayats in district Kangra has not only improved inclusion, access and entitlements of PwDs in their multiple aspects of life but empowered many of them to be best possible independent as well as contributor in their household economy as well through their improved abilities and skills.

Mahila Mandals (Women Groups) in convergence with Panchayat leaders as well as awareness amongst members of Mahila Mandals about various programs of government including their access and entitlement are playing good role in awareness, social distancing, identification, surveillance, reporting, isolation of cases from abroad or within India and helping each other with all types of needs locally and diligently. Within Mahila Mandal and Self-Help Groups (SHG) there is some "Chanda" (membership contribution) and SHG small saving which they will use judiciously during this crisis.

Self Help Group (SHG) program has already provided women and their families in communities with access to credit with good saving/amount in their group, more than one type of small scale but resilient livelihood avenues (farm and allied sector and non-farm and service sector) as preparedness for any crisis like COVID19.

Young children and youths are also being educated on COVID19 through **Balvihar program** and **Adolescent Girls** program being facilitated and nurtured by CORD in its area of operation.

Many of these SHG women are associated with CORD's **Farm and allied sector program** as well as **Non-farm and service sector program** to learn and earn to strengthen their multiple resilient livelihood avenues in their communities.

Communities in Panchayats are well informed through CBO's institutional mechanisms facilitated by CORD with constant updates from various agencies from time to time and working together with local authorities, understanding and utilising various government provisions of Central and State governments for poorest of the poor to face this situation socially and economically.

To ensure peace and justice, small conflicts are being managed through constant communications with Panchayat and CBOs of women in consultation with expertise help from our **Social justice and informal legal aid program** working with over 900 cases of different types in the district Kangra. CORD is also working as **Service Provider** organisation under Prevention of Domestic Violence Act 2005 for the State of Himachal Pradesh. **Single women, elderly people and migrant labourers and their families stuck locally** are given special focus and priority for their well-being during this time period of crisis of COVID19.

Under our **Sanitation and Hygiene program**, communities are being informed and educated constantly for maintaining proper sanitation and hygiene during this COVID19 pandemic including right use of mask/face shields, hand washing/hygiene and the safe disposal/management of garbage.

8. Being a Convenor of District Inter Agency Group (DIAG) Kangra on Disaster Management as per the Disaster Management Act 2005, we are in communication with members DIAG for further need and action in concerned areas as per the community needs in coordination with the district administration in the district. Few of our team members have registered with HP State Disaster Management Authority (HPSDMA) as COVID prevention volunteers as per their own capacity, availability and expertise.
9. Our team leaders are coordinating, assisting and extending all possible support to our team members in the field operations through teleconferences/phone calls, regular contacts/updates strategically on daily basis responding amidst the ongoing and changing situations/guidelines of government on the prevention of spread of COVID19.

Our thoughts on way forward on COVID19 situation in the community, we have strong belief and faith in historical resilience of rural community and very well coordinated and esteemed leadership and guidance of our Prime Minister, Chief Minister of the State and district administration under your dynamic leadership.

We strongly believe that we all need to work together to educate as many as possible people on the various modes of transmissions, precautions and the gravity involved in this serious phase of pandemic COVID19.

However, everything is very unpredictable at this juncture. Let us keep safe and pray to Lord for better situation for all soon out of this pandemic of COVID19.

Letter ended here was sent as an update to Deputy Commissioner, Kangra for further mainstreaming efforts with government agencies at microlevel as well as streamlining and building ongoing efforts of government without any duplication and wastage of time and resources through strict coordination, networking and collaboration in service to people amidst ongoing COVID19 spread and situation.

On 7th April 2020, Shri Narender Paul attended live WHO media briefing by Director, WHO, This was focussed on fundraising by Lady Gaga and her team commitment to humanity and regrading thanking all frontline community health workers as well as the preparation and objectives of upcoming gala event on 18th April – One World Concert where global known singers, film stars and other personalities including Priyanka Chopra, Macartney, Sahrugh Khan will join against COVID19. WHO is persistently and consistently asking global communities to avoid misuse of medical/surgical masks so that they are available globally for health teams to mitigate and manage COVID19 pandemic collectively and locally.

CORD's team has already contributed **Rs. 34272/- to PM CARES Fund** and mobilised other communities' members to donate online to support government efforts nationally as well as at district level through Deputy Commissioner COVID19 fund, State level through Chief Ministry COVID19 funds.

CORD through its team is ensuring that right content of awareness materials, information is shared with communities to overcome all misinformation and myths around COVID19. Hence, strict authentic data and informational flow is being managed based on standard agencies instructions and guidelines i.e. World Health Organisation (WHO), Ministry of Health and Family welfare (MoHF), National Centre for Diseases Control (NCDC). For example, most recently to give emphasis on role of Panchayat in COVID19 like disaster in sustainable manner, CORD has shared with its team and communities a video on awareness and Panchayat based possible action which is prepared by National Institute for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR), Hyderabad. This video is shared widely with all Panchayat Presidents and CBOs/Mahila Mandal leaders for Panchayat level management and contribution in prevention of COVID19 spread.

CORD's has facilitated and trained women in sewing activities under Self Help Group (SHGs) in CORD sites in Tamilnadu i.e. CORD Siruvani and CORD Thamraipakkam and in Himachal Pradesh (district Chamba as well as in Kangra) and Uttarakhand. These women are getting orders for stitching masks for the government department.

Chinmaya Mahila Mandals (Women Groups) facilitated and nurtured by CORD from Nagrota Bagwan has donated 15 quintals rice, 2 quintal pulses, 10 litres cooking oil, washing soap, 1.5 quintal wheat flour (till 8th April 2020) to poorest of the poor, Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) households through Sub Division Magistrate (Civil) Nagrota Bagwan. On

10th April 2020, Chinamay Mahila Mandals in Mhalkar Chari and Kawari Panchayat have provided six quintals rice, 50kg Wheat flour, 15 litres edible oil, 45kgs potato, 20kgs onion, 2kg salt, 44kgs pulses to needy people through SDM Nagrota Bagwan including cash donation of Rs. 8100 by Chinmaya Har Har Mahadev Mahila Mandal, Muhalkad Chahri with help of CORD team members.

National Director CORD, Dr. Kshama Metre has written on 6th April 2020 to Prime Minister office as well Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh as below:

*"It is well known that people infected are contagious before symptoms. Moreover, many other remains asymptomatic carriers. These are the people who will **unknowingly and widely** spread infection in the community. Thus, **universal** adoption of masks should become a strategic step. Due precautions of washing the mask and drying it in the sun and washing the hands thereafter should be diligently followed. A simple communication **"I wear the mask to protect myself and you. Please do the same for me."** This should be widely communicated to the public."*

Further in villages, CORD is promoting scientifically and correctly stitching (as per the video available online now) of masks locally to prevent infection and transmission of COVID19. Members of Chinmaya Jai Durga Mahila Mandal (Lambagaoun Block) and Chinmya Shiva Mahila(Panchrukhi) are providing free services in stitching face masks (over 200 done till 9th April 2020 so far) with cloth provided by the government to concerned Block Development Officers (BDOs). Ms. Reshma Devi of Chinmaya Shivshakti Mahila Mandal Bhuner stitched and distributed 350 masks in her Panchayat.

Chinmaya Mahila Mandals facilitated in Indora, Rait and Kangra blocks working to support locally needy people through donations of rations and funds to multiple agencies and individuals. This includes funds donation to PMCARES, Chinmaya Shiv Shakti Mahila Mandal Durgella prepared 300 masks and distributed free of cost to the needy families locally; Chinmaya Mahila Mandal Har Mundla (Panchayat Ladwara Mundla) donated Rs. 2500 to the Sub Division Magistrate- Shahpur; Chinmaya Sai Mahila Mandal Mandal of Panchayat Tharu donated Rs. 4000 to the Deputy Commissioner Kangra; Chinmaya Ram Mahila Mandal Dadamb Panchayat and Chinmaya Adarsh Mahila Mandal from Makroti Panchayat sprayed disinfectant in their respective villages for preventive measures towards spread of COVID19 and Chinmaya Dagwar Mahila Mandal of Dagwaar Panchayat distributed hand sensitizer from their own funds. Chinmaya Adarsh Mahila Mandal from Jheol Panchayat, Chinmaya Jayanti Mahila Mandal Kangra and Chinmaya Durga Mahila Mandal Jamanabadhas provided ration to needy people through local administration. This total till 10th April 2020 include 300 kgs rice, 130kgs flour, 20kgs pulses, 10kgs spices, 20kgs salt and 20liters of edible oil, 20 packets of biscuits and 20kg of soap for washing clothes to migrant laborers living in the village of Diktu and Kangra slums. CORD Team Member Smt. Kushalbala mobilized her brother from the Naganpat Panchayat to provide essential daily food items like rice, flour, oil, pulses to migrant laborers living in Banoi village in Rait development block.

Community Based Inclusion and Rehabilitation (CBIR) program team members have helped Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and their families in Indpur, Kawari and Ambari Panchayats Panchayat by providing ration i.e. 153 kgs flour, 109 kgs rice, 37kgs pulses, 19 litres of edible

oil and salt to five families of PwDs through local Panchayat Presidents and SDM. In Soknidakot Panchayat, our team has arranged supply of Insulin kit to Asha Devi, a woman with locomotor disability and diabetes. In Kawari Panchayat, our team has helped Mr. Parveen Kumar, a person with paraplegia to take his wife with kidney failure diseases for dialysis to Hospital by help of ambulance through SDM Nagrota Bagwan block. Besides this SDM, Shri Shashi Pal Negi visited the family and supported the family with ration and Rs.7000/-personally by looking at the poor situation of family. Mrs. Anpurna, a woman with locomotor disability belongs to a remote Panchayat Garoh, is stitching masks with prescribed scientific methods for her own family members and other community members. PwDs and their mothers too are working in prevention of this cruel COVID19 in rural communities.

In CORD work area in **district Chamba, Himachal Pradesh**, five (05) Mahila Mandal members are stitching 50-55 face masks per day for the distribution in their own panchayat to prevent spread of COVID19. Panchayat representatives are encouraging and appreciating their contribution by awarding cash amount to these women. In Gram Panchayat Brikuli in Punjab too, the Panchayat Pradhan distributed some cloths among Mahila Mandals members to stick masks for distribution to people in the Panchayat.

In CORD's work area in **Uttarakhand State**, CORD teams are bridging information gaps with communities and the needy people on access to various relief programs like PMGKY (Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana), Ann Yojana, Gas Cylinders & others schemes launched by the Central Government and State Government with the active involvement of CBOs. For example, with CORD team interventions, LPG Gas cylinder supply was ensured in Gram Panchayat Uroli for 44 families. CORD team raised issue of scarcity of LPG cylinder supply with government authorities and the Indane Gas agency dealer in Ranikhet. Gas agency was reluctant to go to this remote area and hence people have to hire private vehicle (which is even difficult to get amidst pandemic of COVID19) to bring home their gas cylinders. This intervention has saved Rs. 150-200 as extra freight charges which otherwise villagers had to pay to the private vehicles. During the COVID-19 pandemic there was crisis of private vehicle. In this matter CORD team members facilitated one local Mahila Mandal "Chinmaya Saraswati Mahila Mandal" ward no.3, Gram Panchayat Uroli to write a letter to State Government and Prime Minister of India (online mode). Within two days from writing application, the concerned Gas Agency sent his own vehicle to supply LPG cylinders in this Panchayat (44 LPG Cylinders were distributed on 1st April 2020).

Social Justice and Legal aid program supported with needful help and counselling cases associated with its program in rural area. These includes women with domestic violence, single women (widow, deserted women, divorced, unmarried), elderly people and migrant labourers in Uttarakhand sites of CORD. Smt. Dev Kumari Devi, a deserted lady with her two children, 13 years old daughter and 9 years old son living in Nagrota Bagwan block was supported for provision of ration from the government. Similarly, Smt. Ranju Devi (member of single women group) from Balehar panchayat also got ration support from government. Free LPG cylinders were provided (under Ujjavala Scheme) to six (06) single women associated with the program.

CORD Kaza's orphanage home namely Chinmaya Vijaya in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh has also taken the following steps to ensure the safety and security of all the residents including girls who are supported by CORD for their education, food and hostel

accommodation. All students in class 11th and 12th have completed their exams by 20th March 2020. On the instruction from Child Welfare Commissioner of Guntur District telephonically, all girl children were sent to their respective guardians and they are being taken care of by them. All the Children have gone home in different batches by 28th March 2020. They are being taken care of by their parents/guardians. Only three children are staying in campus of Chinmaya Vijaya with less than 10 staff residing on the premises. All necessary precautionary measures related to prevention of COVID19 are being taken to ensure the safety of all of them through continued education and social distancing within campus as well. Children are attending classes of 10th standard on DD Saptagiri, a Telugu channel for 2 hours daily and the same information passed to other children with back with their parents/guardians.

CORD Thamaraiakkam and CORD Siruvani in Tamilnadu are working as per advisories of government in its area of operation. In **CORD Thamaraiakkam**, team is helping people associated with CORD's comprehensive program and Panchayats leaders with intensive awareness and connecting needy people to their access and entitlements being announced by the government during the lockdown time period for their living and wellbeing. Huge need is felt in these areas for more awareness as people are very laid back and careless by nature, taking things very light despite the repeated emphasis by the police, Government and staffs. CORD teams are constantly engaged in using whatsapp and other technology and communications to make people understand the gravity of situation and need for lockdown as preventive measure.

In **CORD Siruvani**, during the lockdown, the Panchayat clerks with CORD's facilitated Mahila Mandals along with the elected representatives have been continuously creating awareness on COVID19 by announcements, distribution of pamphlets and door-to-door visits. They have been spraying bleach solution and seeing to it that all the areas are clean. No mass gatherings are allowed. Team is facilitating access of free and extra ration and money announced is being provided from the 2nd April onwards in a phased manner—100 tokens per day by the Ration depot. Some of the Self Help Groups (SHGs) members have been stitching masks with the material given by the Magalir Thittam of Tamilnadu Government and Rotary Clubs. CORD has coordinated between the agencies and the members and helped them in the sale of the masks. Director, CORD Siruvani, Dr. Meera has donated masks to all the four Panchayats and some cash for feeding the conservancy workers. Cleansing material like Phenyl and soap oil made by our SHGs were purchased by the Panchayat in bulk for further distribution. As all women, men and children are at home and not venturing outside, story books from CORD library were given to the children, so that they can share and be usefully occupied. CORD teams are regularly interacting with each other through conference calls and whatsapp and with the village partners every day.

Women Self Help Group (SHG) in Gram Panchayat Puthur facilitated by CORD site in Siruvani, stitched 1000 cloth masks and 65 masks from the cloth material provided by Tamilnadu State Rural Livelihood Mission in CORD's area of operation. 100 masks were given to women leaders the Rotary Club. 350 masks were provided by CORD to sanitation workers and women group members in four Panchayats. Rest masks were sold to needy people at subsidies rate of Rs. 10 per masks. CORD has provided 10 pairs of good-quality gloves 10 pairs to conservancy workers of 2 Panchayats.

In CORD's facilitated non-farm livelihood initiatives, SHG members Ms. Revathy in prepare and sold 30 Litres of Phenyl @ Rs.30 per Litre and Ms. Bhagya prepare and sold 20 litres of

soap oil @Rs.50 per litre to the Panchayats for sanitation work need amidst COVID19 in spite of problem of lockdown. Both of them sold another 20 litres of Phenyl and soap oil to other individuals in Panchayats.

During ongoing COVID19 pandemic, 113 very poor villagers were attended in health facility and provided medicines free of costs specially for extremely poor and bedridden. Some diabetic and seriously ill patients were referred to Primary Health Care and health facility. Place of negligence not following social distancing were reported to collectorate office by Director CORD for needful action.

CORD Siruvani team members donated **Rs. 16500/- in PMCARES fund**. Director CORD Siruvani, Dr. Meera donated **Rs. 25000/-** through Panchayat Presidents and Secretaries to the needy material for the very poor or old people in their Panchayat.

Besides COVID19 awareness and emphasising safety measures, CORD team members are in communication with communities in its area of operation to enable people to access their entitlements announced by the government i.e. Ujjwala, Jan Dhan, Kisan credit card, old age pension schemes and free extra ration and Rs.1000 per family delivered at doorsteps of people in a very systematic way with social distancing and necessary precautions. Women Group leaders are sprinkling solutions of neem leaves & turmeric in and around all the houses periodically. The Panchayat distributed herbal drinks to improve the immunity of all the people. Some farmers gave free vegetables to the labourers in their villages. Farmer Producer Company facilitated by CORD creating awareness too on COVID19. CORD facilitated distribution of 35 grocery packages (worth Rs.450 each) to the Thondamuthur Block Development Officer and Chairman and 1000 masks for the needy people supported by Chinmaya Mission Coimbatore. In addition, 17 such packets were given to migrant workers in Thondamuthur Block and 8 more packets to needy members associated with CORD work.

Due to increase in positive cases in Odisha, Government of Odisha has decided to extend lockdown period in the entire state of Odisha till midnight of 30th April, 2020. From very beginning of lockdown declaration for COVID-19, some of **CORD Deuladhia's** Community Based Organisations (CBOs) i.e. Chinmaya Maa Taratarini Mahila Mandals of Kardangi Panchayat; Chinmaya Paragon Youth Club of Bhimkand Panchayat and Bapuji Youth Club of Deuladiha Panchayat playing vital role in surveillance and vigilance on COVID19 prevention in their Panchayat areas. In collaboration with their Panchayat leaders and local administration, they have sealed their village by fencing besides ensuring measures of awareness in action like social distancing, hand hygiene and all necessary precautions. From 1 April, 2020, Chinmaya Saishree Self Help Group (SHG) of Dobalupal Panchayat in collaboration and financial support of local administration are providing free meals to 150-170 needy stranded migrant labours & the poor people in their village lost their daily wages/income due to impact of lockdown period which is again extended till 30 April 2020.

CORD Lathikatta team is working in their area of operation in close association with and guidelines of district administration in Panchayats for all needful precautions and awareness on COVID19 with tribal populations. They are closely educating people/labourer working outside their villages in nearby cities/town in Odisha as well as in other State of country and now have returned home. Home quarantine is being facilitated to ensure all preventive measures. Mahila Mandals and Self Help Groups (SHGs) facilitated by CORD are providing free cooked food is being served for 100 to 150 people in every Panchayat. Team is further

ensuring access and entitlements for the people specially the marginalised ones i.e. people with old age, single women, PwDs pension for four months in advance; under food security program, extra 5kgs of rice and 1 kg of Dal per member is being provided to poor people along with monthly ration quota by the government;Rs. 1500/- per month is announced for daily labourers four months for maintenance of daily expenses; wages increased up to Rs.202 per day under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA); Prime Minister Dhan Jan Yojana account holders would get Rs. 1000 for three months as financial assistance and four gas cylinders would be provided freely to poor family under Ujjwala Yojana. CORD team is in touch with ANM/ASHA/PRI members and sensitizing general population to prevent COVID19 through frequent hand-washing, social distancing etc.

On 10 April 2020, to stay updated, share correct information with communities in rural India, National Director CORD and some team leaders/Site Directors attended as online class of COVID19 Academy on **COVID19 education** organised by Sphere organisation in support with HCL Foundation, UNICEF, National Disaster Management Authorities (NDMA) and World Health Organisation (WHO) in India. These information and knowledge are managed effectively and efficiently by disseminating it to CORD teams and further rural communities in India.

(13th April 2020), Shri Arun Mehra MLA (Member Of Legislative Assembly) Nagrota Bagwan met with the Honorable Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh Shri Jai Ram Thakur today and requested him to kindly give permission and passes to individuals working out of state to enable them to come home safely, especially from industrial areas of Baddi, Nalagurgh, Paranu etc. This will enable them to reach home and help with harvesting their crops as there is great demand during harvest season. The Chief Minister has promised to look into it and take appropriate decision as soon as possible.

He appealed to the general public to maintain patience and appreciated them for their cooperation in maintaining social distancing and following other orders and guidelines issued by the Prime Minister of India and Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh and understands their fears and concerns. He also mentioned that because of the cooperation of the people we have been successful in managing Corona virus better than any other state. He was very appreciative of the sincere efforts put forth by the administration, police, health department and the general public. He also thanked the other political parties for acting wisely and their understanding during this difficult time and giving their full support to the central and state governments.

Furthermore, he gave thanks to Dr Didi (Dr Kshama Metre) National Director CORD for her social services through CORD organization. He mentioned that under the facilitation of CORD 250 Mahila Mandals are doing tremendous service by providing food and other necessities to the migrant laborers and other underprivileged individuals. With the inspiration these Mahila Mandals other Mahila Mandals have also decided to join hands and help the government. He appreciated their noble efforts to feed and help others and saluted the example of "Matru Shakti" (women empowerment) set forth by the women of Mahila Mandals.

He informed everyone that the administration and volunteers are making every effort to make available and provide rations to people who need it without any social or political discrimination in the Nagrota Bagwan constituency.

He thanked all the donors for their generosity in cash and kind during this Covid-19 pandemic and requested that they continue their support for the underprivileged in the future.

In fact, CORD is envisioning a long term plan in close association with communities' and stakeholders like agriculture and horticulture departments etc (especially for the upcoming harvesting season) to enable rural communities specially poorest of the poor people to be more resilient and least impacted by COVID19, lockdown and related consequences by **managing their life and livelihoods.**

20th April 2020, Dr. Kshama Metre and Narender Paul attended video conference with **Sh. Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairperson NITI Aayog** organised by Deendyal Research Institute (DRI) (Sh. Atulji) and Ram Bhau Prabodhini (Shri Ravi Pokhrana). It was very good to listen to various other 23-25 participants deeper insights, grassroot issues and concerns of very experienced people working in multi-sectors for the development of Bharat as Shresth Bharat. Dr. Kshama Metre shared CORD's inputs (attached **2-page document** with this report separately) in the opening session first. It was a mutual learning experience too for all of us. We too would like to connect to each other and learn from everyone for assimilating action in our work. Shri Rajivji has assured all that he will take this further for inclusion in development agenda of the country through various concerned ministries/departments as mentioned by him during the video conference. Shri Rajivji has offered that we can have a quarterly telecons for sharing many people's experiences to strengthen participative process of inclusive development and implementation of various programs in the country.

(Posted on NGO Darpan portal of NITI Aayog on 25th May 2020):

CORD is working through its comprehensive integrated rural development work in over 850 villages in Himachal Pradesh (in District Kangra 650 villages and district Chamba in three Panchayats), Odisha, Tamilnadu, Uttrakhand, one Panchayat in Punjab (border area with H.P) and Andhra Pradesh (orphanage home for 104 girls).

Besides existing rural communities' resilience, we all need to work together with a Panchayat based approach to manage COVID19 situation in terms of Prevention, Surveillance, Monitoring, Coordination, Mobilisation and Management in Rural Communities. We need to continue to aware and educate as many as possible people and train volunteers in the Panchayat level itself towards end-to-end management besides ongoing government efforts for effective engagement of communities on the various modes of transmissions, precautions and the gravity involved in the phases of pandemic COVID19.

Effective engagement of District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) and Civil Society Organisation is must at more decentralised wards of the Panchayat. Database of DDMA volunteers could be harnessed for more tangible action at Panchayat level.

People who are quarantines after their return in rural India either should cook themselves through dry ration and accessories provision by administration or Community Based Organisations (CBOs) of women could be requested to help with making chapatis and food

and hand over to administration for distribution at quarantine centre as being undertaken by CORD's facilitated CBOs too.

Any type of challenges emerged, which are inevitable and unforeseen in this pandemic, administration should try to find out more ways and means to engage community for its sustainable management locally. Such best practice should be highlighted and encouraged more for larger benefits.

Program interventions from 15th April to 30th May, 2020

Activities undertaken by CORD's Mahila Mandal during COVID-19 Crises in Nagrota Bagwan, Bhawarna, Panchrukhi, Lambagaoun, Kangra, Rait, Dharamshala, Indora and Bhedu Mahadev Blocks of District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh.

- After constant motivation and guidance of CORD team members, 230 Mahila Mandals have made more than **40,298 masks** during reporting period and provided to needy people in different panchayats. In Nagrota Bagwan block, Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Nagrota Bagwan had provided cloth to 150 Mahila Mandals for mask making. Additionally, these Mahila Mandals also have made masks with their own Mahila Mandal *chanda* and distributed free to villagers.



- Eight members of the Chinmaya Jayanti Mahila Mandal set up a sewing center in their village for seven days and made around **5000 face covers mask**, which they further distributed to the people of their panchayat and some masks, were given to the migrant labours through SDM Kangra. Eight women members of Mahila Mandals volunteered at the sewing center for seven days, Mahila Mandal procured cloth from their own Mahila Mandal *Chanda* as well as some materials were donated by the Panchayat Vice-President for making mask.
- The members of Chinmaya Shiva Mahila Mandal of Paasu Panchayat of Dharamshala Development Block have set an example by taking responsibility of providing face masks (**5600 mask**) to all villagers of their panchayat. Apart from this, they also distributed masks to health workers, police, migrant laborers and petrol pump workers to make them aware of precautions and needed measures during the ongoing pandemic of COVID19 while providing service to other people.

- 141 Mahila Mandals nurtured by CORD in 57 Panchayats of Nagrota Bagwan, Bhawarna, Bhedu Mahadev, Rait, Kangra and Dhramshala blocks donated ration to needy people through concerned Sub Divisional Magistrates (SDM) offices. Ration donated by these Mahila Mandals included 120 quintals rice, 51 quintals wheat flour, 46 quintals pulses, 246 liter edible oil, 163 kg salt, 2.83 quintal potato, 160 kg onion, 35 kg turmeric, 29 kg washing soap, 21kg sugar etc.



- 76 Mahila Mandals nurtured by CORD has donated **Rs. 2,64,674** in Prime Minister CARES (Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situation) fund.
- Chinmaya Mahila Mandal Nichla Chaitru of Panchayat Chaitru, Dharamshala Block have donated **Rs 31,000** in Prime Minister CARES (Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situation) fund and inspired other Mahila Mandals too to do so.
- CORD team and Mahila Mandals in Panchayats are in constant communication with Sub Divisional Magistrate, Block Development Officer, Nagrota Bagwan, functionaries of panchayats, leaders of Mahila Mandals and SHGs to carry out COVID 19 relief activities. CORD team members are regularly educating villagers for proper hand washing, social distancing, and personal hygiene and informing to be vigilant about people arriving in panchayats from other areas for their registration with nodal officers, needed quarantine and medical care, if required.
- Eight Mahila Mandals are providing 300 chapatti (roti) every day from their own houses for people who are kept in institution quarantine by local administration. These Mahila Mandals were requested by SDM, Nagrota Bagwan to help. Mahila Mandals provide chapatti on alternative day, around 1400 *chapatti* have been provided by these Mahila Mandals till 20th May 2020.
- Chinmaya Shiva Mahila Mandal of Bhuner Panchayat of Nagrota Bagwan block had provided cooked food to 15 migrant laborers when they were under institution quarantine by local administration.
- Mrs. Chanchal Devi of Chinmaya Chudpur Mahila Mandal of Indora Development Block prepared **1100 face** cover masks and distributed them to the migrant laborers who were working in the farmer's fields for harvesting wheat. Each day she puts some masks in her bag and goes to the farmer's fields and distributes masks to those who do not wear masks and educated them on its importance during harvesting and protection from COVID-19.
- Four members of the Chinmaya Kurdsan Mahila Mandal of Indora development block have taken responsibility of two migrant laborers who have lost their jobs due to lock-

down. They are providing them necessary food items as well as financial help to meet the basic needs of their family. They are further helping them to engage in some work for earning their livelihood locally.

- 23 Mahila Mandals of Rait, Dharamshala, Kangra and Nagrota Bagwan Blocks from their chanda/fund have distributed 183 litres of hand wash/sanitiser (one bottle 100 ml) to poor households from their Mandal's Fund/ chanda.
- 38 Chinmaya Mahila Mandals of Nagrota Bagwan, Bhawarna, Lamba Gaun, Panchrukhi, Rait kangra, Dharamshala and Bhedu Mahadev blocks of district Kangra made 5645 mask and provided free of cost to needful people in their respective Panchayats.
- 12 Chinmaya Mahila Mandals of Ghorab, Kawari, Pathiyar and Bhuned panchayats of Nagrota Bagwan Blocks in Kangra district provided around 600 *chapatti (Roti)* to people who were kept institutional quarantine by Nagrota Bagwan administration. These Mahila Mandal were requested by Sub Divisional Magistrate Nagrota Bagwan to donate chapatties for these people.
- 24 Chinmaya Mahila Mandals donated 730 kg rice 284 kg wheat flour, 25 kg pulses and 2kg sugar and 4 liter edible oil to migrant families through the administration.
- 5 Mahila Mandla from Dharamshala, Nagrota Bagwan and Kangra development Block has donated Rs 34,500 for COVID-19 relief activities through Prime minister care fund.
- Chinmaya Bojpur Mahila Mandal from Ghoran Panchayat of Indora Development Block set an example by distributing 700 masks to villagers in its own Panchayat which was sealed due to COVID-19.
- The presidents of Chinmay Kurdasan Mahila Mandal, Nadaun and Chudpur Mahila Mandal of Indora development block have taken the responsibility of a pregnant woman from a migrant laborer (from Rajasthan) who lost her job due to the lock-Down and was living a very miserable life. They helped the pregnant woman of this family and provided all the things like food grains, milk for a month so that mother and child would be healthy. They took her to the hospital to ensure safe institutional delivery. After the delivery they donated Rs 2500 to her to ensure a healthy diet for her so that mother and child would be healthy.

Community Based Inclusion and Rehabilitation (CBIR) program for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)

- Team has reached 1476 PwDs and 90 VRPs, (Village Resource Person) identified and facilitated their needs and also educated them on the prevention and safety measures to ensure that they follow Government instructions and guidelines during the global pandemic of COVID-19.

- 279 therapy sessions were held with 142 People with Disabilities through video calls. Therapy sessions include physiotherapy, speech therapy, special education and sensory stimulation activities.
- 29 Virtual Conference meetings with 139 women with disabilities were facilitated by Mrs. Anita Thakur. Issues of women with disabilities, their mutual challenges and community level solutions discussed during the meetings. Anganwadi and ASHA workers also joined the meetings.
- Virtual General House Meeting of Chinmaya Umang (Rural advocacy forum for people with disabilities their parents and friends) was held on 22nd May 2020 under the facilitation of Ms. Neelam Kumar, Secretary and Mr. Mahinder Singh Vice President Chinmaya Umang. 40 PwDs, parents and programme team members participated in the meeting.
- 52 Mini Chinmaya Umang (Rural advocacy forum for people with disabilities their parents and friends) virtual meetings were held with 289 PwDs and their parents in Indora, Rait, Kangra, Dharamsala and Nagrota Bagwan development blocks of Kangra.
- 275 families of PwDs received State Government subsidy of Gas Cylinders in the gas connection holder's account under PM UjwalaYojana, 373 Women with disabilities and mothers of children with disabilities received Rs.500/- in their Jan Dhan bank account and 739 families of PwDs received five kg Rice and one kg Black Gram free of cost through PDS.
- Program team has facilitated access of 29 deserving families of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) for required ration (232 KG Flour, 145 KG Rice, 10KG Pulses through the administration, Panchayat Pradhan and Mahila Mandal. 20 children with disabilities received ration from Anganwadi at their door step. Ration included Rice, Daliya, Refined Oil, Sugar, Salt, Black Gram, Milk Powder, Pulses and Biscuit packets.
- Team members of the programme have completed online courses and attended webinar on different topics organised by Sphere's organisation facilitated COVID19 Academy.
- Mr. Sohan Lal from Sanour panchayat block Indora is the caregiver of Mr. Narjeet Singh a person with quadriplegia from Jammu and Kahmir (J&K). Mr. Sohan was struck in the lockdown at his village and faced issue for proper E-pass from the authority. Mr. Narjeet Singh was also suffered without his caregiver. Disability Activist of Jammu & Kashmir has approached to Mr. Balbir Guleria for the above. He coordinated with the team member of the programme Mrs. Anupam Devi and also approached telephonically to Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Indora for proper E-pass for him. With the facilitation of the programme he received E-Pass on the second day and now he reached Jammu.

Uttarakhand Sites:

- Program team members continued providing/facilitating supports like personal/family counselling, guidance, dissemination of COVID19 related information, access of reliefs provided by the government to 20 disabled person, 21 Single women and 65 migrant persons through 98 members of Mahila Mandals locally. Team has conducted 16 online Mahila Mandal (MM) meetings to discuss issues and concerns of women locally during the ongoing pandemic and mobilised donation of Rs. 3313/- to the PM CARES fund from their Mahila Mandals.

- The MM members of Gram Panchayat Bhaioli resolved one ongoing problem of public nuisance created by one local alcoholic.
- Team has facilitated distribution of ration to 374 needy families; 45 LPG Cylinder; 750 masks; 35 litres. Team has facilitated construction of two soakage pits, two garbage pits and five household level micro garbage segregation units.
- Program team has formed a whatsapp group of 102 individuals including CBOs members, Elected Panchayat Representatives, Anganwadi workers, ASHA workers, health workers and other related stakeholders at Panchayat level for highlighting, sharing the information and appreciation of local efforts related to COVID19 amongst them and other stakeholders.
- Team has facilitated 188 individuals to get jobs under MGNREGA, where the work has been started in Gram Panchayat Tanwani and Kafali.

District Chamba (H.P) and Punjab areas:

- During this period our team members continued providing and facilitating supports like personal/family counselling, guidance, dissemination of COVID19 related information, access of reliefs provided by the government to 22 disabled person, 50 Single women and 71 migrant persons through 261 members of Mahila Mandals locally. Team has organised 17 online Mahila Mandal meetings and mobilised Mahila Mandal members to donate Rs. 1800/- to the PM CARES fund.
- Team has facilitated distribution of rations to 50 needy families; 105 LPG Cylinder; 2420 masks, two litres sanitizer. Team has facilitated construction of two soakage pits, five garbage pits, 41 household level micro garbage segregation units and preparation of organic manures with 60 families.
- Team has formed a whatsapp group of 120 individuals including CBO leaders' members, Elected Panchayat Representatives, Anganwadi workers, ASHA workers, health workers and other related stakeholders at Panchayat level for sharing the information and appreciation of local efforts related to COVID19 amongst themselves locally as well related stakeholders outside.
- Team has facilitated 206 individuals to get jobs under MGNREGA through application to their Panchayats.

CORD Sanitation program team has facilitated construction of 37 soakage pits, 102 garbage pits, 135 household level micro garbage segregation units in the villages.

Social Justice and Legal aid program have provided legal aid, counselling and guidance to 43 victims and 23 single women. Program has registered six cases with appropriate authorities through online grievance redressal portals. Six program beneficiaries were facilitated to refill LPG cylinder under Ujjawala Yojana and seven needy people were provided ration.

Under Community health program, CORD team member, Ms. Darshana Devi, provided counselling and guidance on COVID19 to five VVRPs (Village Volunteer Persons) of Yuvati Samuh and nine VVRPs of Balvihar program in the villages. She conducted discussion/swadhaya with 17 persons and sent the reading materials through whatsapp to them.

She has counselled and guided 18 diabetic patients at CORD health facility and eight people through teleconference. She attended 11 patients in health facility for general ailments.

30th June 2020

Nationally, CORD teams are working diligently under the esteemed leadership, instructions and guidance of National Director, Dr. Kshama Metre. CORD is focussing its efforts on the betterment of life and livelihoods of rural communities during the ongoing COVID19 times. CORD teams are in communication with all its team members through Zoho meetings.

In Himachal Pradesh, members of 34 Chinmaya Mahila Mandals stitched and distributed 3695 masks in their Panchayats, 13 Mahila Mandals donated 243 kg rice 120 kg wheat flour, 105 kg pulses and 10 liter edible oil to migrant families through the administration. Six Mahila Mandals donated 16,000 rupees through PMCARE Fund. Six Mahila Mandals received 8000 rupees each as cash prize from BDO Rait for outstanding relief welfare work done during lockdown. Counsellor, guided and enabled 762 Persons with disabilities through 66 Village Resource Person, conducted 148 physiotherapy, speech therapy and special education sessions for 90 PwDs, 12 sessions for 28 Women with Disabilities and ASHA workers by Anita Thakur on various issues of WwDs. 70 PwDs received Rs. 2000/- under Himachal Pradesh Sahra Yojna, 150 families of PwDs received State Government subsidy of Gas Cylinders connection under PM Ujwala Yojana, 100 WwDs received Rs.500/- in their Jan Dhan bank account, 300 families of PwDs received five kg rice and one kg Black Gram free of cost through PDS, 150 people with disabilities applied for jobs under MNREGA. Being Coordinator of State Nodal Agency Centre for the National Trust attended as panellists webinar by National Trust.

In Uttrakhand, Chamba and Punjab, facilitated rations to 325 needy families and 8 litres of sanitizer. 412 with MGNREGA enrollment. ***CORD Deuladiha,*** Odisha facilitated kitchen garden with 1360 households in eight Panchayats by providing five varieties of vegetable seeds. SRI in 20 acres, loans through SHG of rupees 970000 to eight SHGs, donated 26500 rupees to PMCARE relief fund by 36 Mahila Mandals, 236 Mahila Mandals and farmer club members working in MGNREGA in field bunding and farm pond development work in eight tribal villages, cashew nut plantation in 20 acres of land by migrant labours, developed database details of all migrant laborers returned home in CORD's area of work for their sustainable livelihoods development and rehabilitation in upcoming times. of our eight focused Panchayat.

CORD Lathikata worked together with BDO office to accelerate and create demand to work under MGNREGA where 6000 person days will be provided per day for migrant and needy persons to enable each job card holders to availed 4500 per family in three months. Rupees 50,000 as bank loan for women SHGs. 16 SHGs from five Gram Panchayats are cooking and supplying food to 1324 PwDs, old and vulnerable persons, four MMs distributed free masks, sanitizers, soaps to 256 poor people. ***CORD Thamaraiakkam*** helped PwDs through DDRO office for corona kits and financial assistance, helped 311 BPL persons to get ration of worth 700 rupees each. distribution of provisions worth 700 rupees to each. Director, CORD Thamaraiakkam contributed Rs. 5000/- to Vadatur Panchayat. Mahila Mandals distributed

provisions worth 700 rupees to 30 members and rupees 1125 per person to 22 members. Velliyur SHG distributed Rs. 500/- worth material to 20 families. Loan amount of rupees 6,55,000 distributed to their 117 members for their needs and livelihood development. Facilitating nutrition Kitchen gardening through seed distribution to 1600 households. **CORD Siruvani** and Sidhbari, 309 poor villagers were served, examined, treated, 22 women with domestic violence counselled and guided, 28 persons with diabetics, 24 needy cases referred for further investigations. Aids & appliances like walker and commode were given to bedridden. Hepatitis B vaccines, online consultations, vitamin supplements were given to 243 women and adolescents, 53 women underwent self-sampling for detection of genital HPV to detect high-risk cases for cervical cancer. CORD Siruvani team facilitated sales of products of rupees 13000 made by poor SHG members. 54 SHG members facilitated for kitchen gardening, provided bank loan of rupees 160000 for COVID19 relief from Tamilnadu State Rural Livelihood Mission. 125 villagers were insured under the LIC Group Insurance Scheme. One needy orphan girl was facilitated for rupees 2000 per month sponsorship for three years duration from the District Child Protection Office. Two toilets constructed for the poorest of the poor with material contribution of worth rupees 3500 each.

Simultaneously, CORD is working side by side through continued communication, dialogues and support to its team members and further to communities to **manage related issues of mental health amidst COVID19** which may emerge due to prolonged lockdown time period, stress and fear due to spread of COVID19 and fatigue, staying at homes, inactivity, loss of livelihoods specially for migrant workers etc.

All team members are chanting *Hanuman Chalisa* and singing prayers of universal peace and well-being i.e. *Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah, Sarve Santu Niraamayaah. Sarve Bhadraanni Pashyantu, Maa Kashcid-Duhkha-Bhaag-Bhavet. Om Shaantih Shaantih Shaantih.*(Om. May All be Happy, May All be Free from Illness. May All See what is Auspicious, May no one Suffer. Om Peace, Peace, Peace)

CORD's Action during COVID-19











