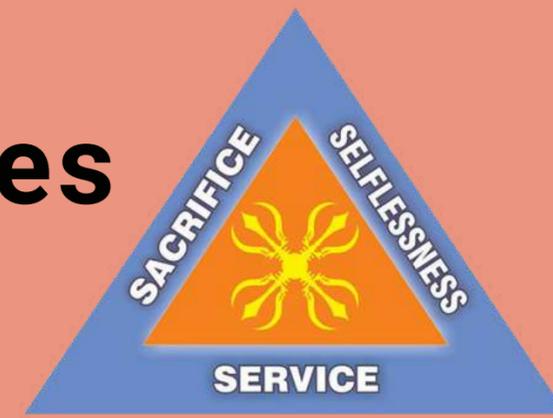


Parivaar Newsletter on COVID-19 Relief Measures



Dear Friends,

As India and the world faces the COVID-19 crisis, we at Parivaar are trying our best to serve our children and the community both in West Bengal residential institutions and in poor, remote tribal villages in 5 districts of Madhya Pradesh where our Seva Kutirs are, by employing a diverse set of measures.

We gratefully acknowledge the contribution of our supporters, well-wishers, volunteers and mentors. Without your support this would not have been possible.

Regards,
Vinayak Lohani
Founder and Chief

Parivaar Bengal Residential Institution

Due to COVID-19 pandemic and Government's advisories, we sent most of the children to their homes with their guardians. However, 120 children are staying in our residential institutions as they have no family or relatives and stay throughout the year at Parivaar. There are 65 resident Sevavratees who are also there. The resident Sevavratees are performing their duties courageously and selflessly and, despite concerns about their families etc, have stayed put and remained focused at our campuses. We are following all the advised practices like safe distancing and greater watch on any symptoms etc. Our Founder and Chief, Vinayak Lohani is also staying in the Residential Institution to personally monitor and implement these practices.

Ration Distribution to Village Families



Direct Cash Transfer to Needy Elderly Women



Based on inputs of our Sevavratees in these villages, we have identified some cases of poor families who did not have any cash left out with them, and they needed it to buy the other essentials during the period of lockdown, in addition to the basic ration package that they get from the government. In all these families, we have deposited Rs 1000 in the bank accounts of the most elderly woman of the household. Our team has taken all their details such as Aadhar card numbers, bank account details etc. As of 13th April 2020, there are a total 613 such women in Sheopur district and some parts of Sehore district to whom we have deposited Rs 6,13,000 in total. We will be doing this in the other 3 districts as well.



Food Distribution to Migrant Families in Bhopal



Bhopal is a big city and therefore migrant families are facing problems of sustenance after the lockdown was imposed. There is also a significant outbreak of COVID-19 positive cases and considerable panic among people. Though we do not have any team or Centres in Bhopal city, we still, through our Volunteers identified 80 very poor and needy homeless migrant labour families in Bhopal city who did not have enough food to sustain them. Our team bought the ration (flour, rice, pulses, salt etc) from the market for all these 80 families sufficient for 15 days and went to their houses and distributed these.

Helping Migrant Labourers from Other States



There are a few cases of migrant labourers from other states such as Bihar and Gujarat who were working in these villages and they could not go back home after the lockdown was imposed. When our team surveyed in the initial days of the lockdown it found out that these people were in a very difficult situation to feed themselves, as their contractor had also gone away and they lacked money as well as food. So we informed the local authorities and these people are being given food by them. One such case was in Karahal block of Sheopur district where 16 migrant labourers from Bihar were engaged in electric work in Karahal Block and another case is in Dehari village of Dewas district where 10 migrant labourers from Gujarat were engaged in Narmada Pipeline Project.

Coordinating Health Checkups by the Government Officials

Our team is coordinating with the government officials and health officers, and informs them about any cases which require medical attention. This includes also cases of migrant labourers who are returning to their villages. Information about all such persons are given to the health officials and they do a routine checkup. If any person shows symptoms of fever, cold etc then he/she is quarantined. As of 12th April 2020, there are a total of 358 such health checkups which have been coordinated by our team.



Distribution of Protective Equipments to prevent Infections & Other Safety Measures



Government has instructed the Panchayat to distribute masks and sanitizers to villagers. This work has started in some of the villages, and our Village level team volunteers with the Panchayat and other government servants in distribution of these materials, cleaning activities in the villages, spraying of disinfectant in the villages etc. Our team also meets the villagers and spreads awareness about the various measures and steps that need to be taken to maintain cleanliness and social distancing.



Keeping Track of Implementation of Government Schemes



Our team is actively coordinating with the government officials and the villagers and making sure that all the help (in cash and in kind) as decided by the Central & State Governments reaches the villagers. Some of these schemes being implemented in these villages are :

- Monetary support of Rs 2000 installment (out of Rs 6000 annual amount) to farmers under the PM - Kisan scheme.
- Distribution of Mid-Day Meal rations from schools to the children till Class VIII.
- Monetary support of Rs 500 to women into Jan Dhan account for COVID-19 relief.
- Widow and elderly pension scheme.
- Rural wage employment allowance under the MGNREGA scheme.

Concentrated Relief among Carefully Targeted Beneficiaries

We have sent small sums of money to some local grassroots organizations that we have known closely for the past several years and they are doing wonderful work among poor people. This money is being utilized by them towards relief measures for the poor people. These organizations are: Monetary support of Rs 2000 installment (out of Rs 6000 annual amount) to farmers under the PM - Kisan scheme.

- Centre for Collective Development, Bengaluru - Rs 1 lac.
- Nanritam, Purulia, West Bengal - Rs 1 lac.
- Tathastu, Kanpur, U.P. - Rs 1 lac.
- Vivek Vikas Mission, Bankura, West Bengal - Rs 1 lac.
- Milan, Gorakhpur & Chandauli, U.P. - Rs 1 lac.
- Sri Ramakrishna Math, Nattarampalli, Tamil Nadu - Rs 7.50 lacs.

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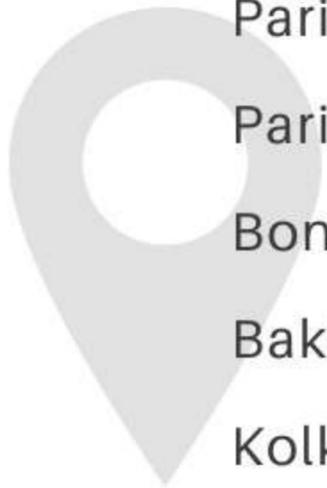
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THANK
YOU