



CORONA COVID 19 RESPONSES BY

EKTA

PARISHAD



UPDATE 16

Period : June 23-30, 2020

Gwalior/India

Dry ration and hygiene kit to 1000 tribal families in Dhar



MADHYA PRADESH



Manavar: Pipriman, Bhagdad, Sala, Temarni, Sitapuri, Bagliya, Dhoncha, Rantalaw, Ajandiman, Badgaonkhedi, Ahmadpur
(365 families)

Kukshi: Kandalai, Golpura, Anjaniamalhar, Bhatiyari, Raypuria, Chikli, Haldi, Mailaniyapura, Awali, Aspur, Deheripura, Deheri, Aali, Girwaniya, Jogardi, Jharda, Kharagaone, Bhulkipura
(635 families)

Dhar @ Prasanna:

1000 tribal and destitute families of 22 villages of Manavar and Kukshi tehsil of Dhar district provided dry ration and hygiene kit by the Save the Children India organization. MGSA a partner organization of the Ekta Parishad is working on child rights in Dhar district with the support of Save the Children, after the lock down due to the Corona epidemic, MGSA has submitted the list of 2000 tribal and destitute families to the Save the Children to provide the food materials and hygiene kit to protect them from the difficult situation due to the Corona epidemic.

As a result Save the Children has been distributed dry ration and hygiene kit in two phases. 665 families of 17 villages of Kukshi and 335 families of 11 villages of Manavar covered under the relief work. There were flour, lentils, edible oil, salt, sugar and tea with detergent and bath soap along with sanitary napkin in each kit.

22 tribal families got chicks from the government



Damoh @ Ghanshyam:

Animal husbandry (kukkut palan vibhag) provided 880 chicks to 22 tribal families in Tendukheda block of Damoh district to develop the optional livelihood for marginalized community. Each family got the 40 chick in single unit with cage. 02 families of Sehari, 08 families of Magadupura and 12 families of Jhalon benefited from this schemes. MJVS along with the Ekta Parishad facilitated the community to access the livelihood schemes. Animal doctor advised the beneficiaries to contact in any difficulties for the lives of chick. **Traditional seeds of vegetables distributed in 8 villages**

Sehore @ Shriram :

The Ekta Parishad distributed vegetable seeds of Brinjal, Gourd, bitter gourd, pumpkin, lady finger to small and marginalized farmer to grow the vegetables in their kitchen garden for their



food supplement in Bhurakheda, Bilkheda,

Mogara kheda, Bhilayi, Mariado, Kabadh, Bania gaon and Khari village of Nasarullaganj block of Sehore district. All these seeds were collected from the farmers and distributed among those who had not the specific seeds in their home. Community decided to save vegetables seeds through their harvesting and create a seeds bank for conservation and promotion of traditional organic seeds.

Hand wash session organized with the children

Sehore @ Shriram:

A hand wash session organized with the children of tribal families in different villages to make aware them about the hand wash technique with soap and wash hand frequently for prevention from Corona. Children were informed about the epidemic Corona and prevent through frequently hand wash.

Memorandum submitted to the district collector

Damoh @ Sujat Khan:

A memorandum to the district collector submitted to stop the injustice, repression and encroachment of forest department in Tendukheda and Udaipura block of Damoh by the dozens of community leaders from Sarra, Bachhama, Kisanpura, Udaipura villages. It should be known that forest dwellers that claims are still pending, they are now harassing by the for-



est department in current crop seasons. therefore community leaders along with the state coordinator of Ekta Parishad Sujat Khan, renowned social activist Santosh Bharati and the president of Land Rights Struggle Front Shivilala Adivasi went to meet district collector and submitted the memorandum. District collector assured them to continue agriculture over the forest land, which claims are pending.

Dry food materials distributed among the migrant laborers

Jabalpur @ Santosh Singh:

The Ekta Parishad distributed dry food materials among the 95 migrant laborers who had recently returned their village after the lockdown in Mohala, Dhanganwa, Bargi, Bichhiya, Karaundi, Umardha.

Dry materials were provided by the Ekta Foundation Trust and process of distribution was facilitated by the Navarachana Samaj Sevi Sansthan Jabalpur.



CHHATTISGARH

Food materials distributed among the campers of water conservation camp



Koriya @ Rajendra Chandel: Dry food materials including rice, lentils, edible oil, soap, spices distributed among the campers of water conservation camp in Jolagi, Tartora and Lakhantola village of Bharatpur block of Koriya district. These camps were organized by the Ekta Parishad and Prayog Samaj Sevi Sansthan under Corona relief program. Pond deepening and cleaning work carried out in Jolagi and Tartora, while campers cleaned drain in Lakhantola.

Shramdan Camp concluded with distribution of dry food

Surajpur @ Basanti Yadav: Water conservation and pond deepening work has been done through community collective in a camp organized by the Ekta Parishad in Mohanpur village of Ramanujnagar of Surajpur district.

After the camp, each camper was provided dry food materials kit as food for the 7 days.



Community awareness meeting held in Raipur



Raipur @ Meena Verma:

A community meeting held in Khorasi village of Raipur as a part of community awareness on fighting against Corona through awareness like hand wash, maintaining social distance, using mask over the face.

Also community awaked about the government schemes relating corona relief work like additional grain distribution by the Public Distribution System to the card holder having more than 3 family members and opening bank account in Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna.

Dry food materials distributed



Jashpur @ Ambika Devi:

The Ekta Parishad along with the Prayog organization distributed dry food materials among the campers of Shramdan camp for water conservation under the Corona Relief Work in Chingara-pathar and Palepkhanda village of Jashpur district. There was rice, lentils, edible oil, sugar, tea leaves, spices with bath and detergent soap in each kit. Kit was given by the president of block committee of the Ekta Parishad and Anganwadi worker in the presence of district coordinator of the Ekta Parishad Ambika Devi.

Campers got the dry ration after the camp



Rajanandgaon @ Mohammad Khan:

The Ekta Parishad provided dry ration to the campers of the water conservation camp organized in Tendutola and Gubiyagarh of Rajanandgaon after the completion of the pond deepening work. Communities have been engaged in pond deepening work during the camp through community collective. The Ekta Parishad has organized this program under the corona relief work.

MANIPUR

Foods materials provided to destitute families in Manipur



Bishunpur:

425 families of 16 villages like Thanga, Heisnam, Karang island etc

Imphal West:

117 families (45 poor weavers of Manipuri traditional cloths) of 4 villages

Imphal West:

454 families of 20 villages



Manipur @ Rishikant Bhai: The Ekta Parishad distributed food materials to more than 1000 destitute families in different villages of 3 districts such as Bishunpur, Imphal West and Imphal East district in corona relief work.

The list of beneficiaries prepared by the village unit of the organization based on the migration, deprivation and poverty. After that food materials were procured at local level and kits were prepared then distribution taken place in specified village.

All the distribution was carried out in the presence of senior activist and advisor of the Ekta Parishad Mamta didi, Dhanmanjari and Surjit. Entire families were facing the shortage of food materials due to the lockdown and corona epidemic.



Shramdan camp for pond renovation in Sundargarh

ODISHA

Sundargarh @ Alma Ekka:

The Ekta Parishad organized three days shramdan camp for renovation of pond in Khatang village of Rajgmpur block in Sundargarh district and provided dry food materials and hygiene kit like rice, lentils, potato, onions, edible oil, salt, spices and soap to 70 men and women for their voluntary work in collective action towards water conservation in the villages.

Food materials kits were handed by the senior activist of the Ekta Parishad Kanhu Charan Mohanty, district coordinator Alam Ekka and ward member of the village.



Welfare Scheme for Poor – A Question of Development and Monsoon of the Scheme

-Ramesh Sharma

Welfare Scheme for the Poor can only be useful and relevant when these people have the right to their own natural resources like water, forest and land.

The condition of labourers and workers amid pandemic is quite obvious for all of us including the government, In such situation the question arise in our mind as to what are the conditions that pushed them to this situation? Who are these people who are being uprooted from their own villages? Why are they forced to migrate to thousands of kilometer from their home villages in search of their livelihood despite prevailing uncertainties? Do they not have any source of livelihood at local level?

Neither the government nor the society has any answer to these precarious and difficult questions. The conditions that force laborers to migrate in search of their better tomorrow and its unexpected results, in fact, teach and show us that many changes still need to be made for ensuring their rights, justice and dignity. This is not merely related to making changes in laws and policies but it requires changes in our outlook and approach in which society and government both relate.

By the way today in the monsoon of scheme the question of bringing rural community and their development at the center stage can only be relevant when it is jointly seen in the light of history of unregulated exploitation of natural

resources like water, forest and land and present realities of migration. The rural India will be seen as an effort of change in the laboratory of development if it is not done now!

As of now half baked approach to development of rural India has been proved to be a laboratory of solved-unsolved and easy experiments. Otherwise the result of innumerable schemes, programs, policies and experiments of the last seven decades have not been so uncertain, irrelevant and meaningless.

Ultimately what way will be followed to get the political philosophy of this newly coined "Welfare Scheme for Poor" into practice. In fact, that will become the parameter of its impact or lack of it. Building infrastructure facilities in the villages with the use of laborers of the villages and scheme for ensuring local employment would be a means of achieving government's target or will it serve as a means of providing source of livelihood to the laborers or serve both the purposes will be seen after some years of its implementation. The main issue will continue to remain if the infrastructure meant to serve welfare for the poor is realized as it would lead the people to self sufficiency and ensure livelihood or not. Till date all the villagers' care infrastructures are believed to be symbol of government development schemes. Even today most of the villagers, as per their right to identity and livelihood, believe that water, forest and land are the most appropriate for their

development.

What should be the nature of the Welfare Scheme for Poor in the rural India? It would have been better had the government adopted some important references and suggestions of the reports of the committee formed earlier. In the country like India which is socially, economically and politically diverse should have local rights and needs at its center stage.

In the year 2001 a comprehensive and a very important report for the development of Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribe community was handed over to Government of India by the Governors' Committee formed under the direction of the then President of India Dr. Narayan. According to this committee formed under the chairmanship of Dr. PC Alexander, recognition of rights should be regarded as the criteria for development.

The second important report in the series was handed over to Government of India in 2006-07 by Shri D. Bandopadhyay under the direction of Planning Commission (Government of India). The committee clearly mentioned that the government gave top priority to the people of rural India to their right to water, forest and land as it would be the most affective resort in dealing with impoverishment and discontentment generated by the impoverishment.

In this concern advocacy efforts were made to reinforce rights' structure with many other reports including these two reports. But government chose the path of reinforcing of infrastructure system as a meaning of development.

Even today knowingly-unknowingly the goal of many schemes and programs of rural development have been accepted as the development of infrastructure in the rural India. Unfortunately in this definition of development the chapter of local people's right to local resources for nature centered livelihood has become irrelevant.

The latest example of this is the areas that were affected by the mining projects and formation of District Mineral Trust and affect on land of

related scheme of the project. The way infrastructure system like roads, Railways, etc. were extended and enhanced in the mining affected areas of Korba in Chhattisgarh and Singrauli in MP in the name of development led to the rampant exploitation of mineral resources. In fact the cost of this kind of development by ignoring people's rights is continued in this region as majority of people affected by this so called developmental projects believe. And in this situation even if schools and Panchayat buildings and hospitals are constructed but that would have no value for the society without having any right.

Today the kind of welfare schemes for poor is needed should have the foundation that facilitate majority of rural community to reclaim their right to water, forest and land. This is not only necessary because the development of these resources with rights will pave the way for development of rural India and that is the main mantra for India and its people.

Today efforts should be made to promote community centered conservation and protection of water, forest and land with rights at the core of Welfare Scheme for Poor. Thousands of villages in India that worked on this formula have been proved to be the best model of rural development. It would have been better had the welfare schemes for poor paved the way for majority of rural and laborer community by adopting these people centered model for the welfare of the community.

As of now the main cause of their impoverishment has been the process of alienating the community by land acquisition or making efforts of acquiring their land in the name of forest conservation. So Welfare Scheme for Poor can only be affective when these communities' rights to water, forest and land for their livelihood are established.

The need of the hour is to broaden and realistic approach to rural development scheme. What should be the parameter of development- it would be better if that is left to the discretion of rural community.

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