



NEWSLETTER

Srijan Foundation's response towards Covid-19 Pandemic through Child Marriage Prevention Program (GFF)

CONTEXT:

The COVID-19 pandemic is having a devastating impact across the world. The entire Indian subcontinent, like many other countries, is under the COVID-19 Lockdown - movement restrictions, isolation - to prevent the spread of coronavirus. Jharkhand is no different. As a large proportion of the population in Jharkhand is dependent on the unorganized sector for their livelihood, the COVID-19 crisis has dried up the usual sources of subsistence. It has led to extreme penury and deprivation among these poorest of the poor and has compounding implications particularly among the daily wage earner, domestic labour, migrant workers, elderly people, etc. within the intervention area.



The Jharkhand government is taking measures not only to stop the spread of the virus but also to support poor people in their hour of need. To protect the people from hunger and destitution, the local administration is providing relief services and providing them with dry ration, cooked food in few places and complementary food for children through anganwadi centres and schools. To get access to such support services, the people of remote and hard to reach areas always have to go through numerous hurdles and roadblocks. The situation is more worrisome for people residing in hard to reach areas. Many of them are not being reached by the state programmes and effectively left to fend for themselves. It is a stark choice between disease and death by hunger for them.



SRIJAN 's REACH & RESPONSE

Srijan in 20 intervention villages, under the Child marriage Prevention Program (Girls First Fund Project), of Palkot Block (Gumla district) & Ichak Block (Hazaribag district) reached to vulnerable families, Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) and Frontline workers (Sevika and Sahiya).



Srijan with the support of the frontline workers such as Sevika, Sahiya, school teachers, panchayat members and peer leaders identified vulnerable families living in dire situations such as:

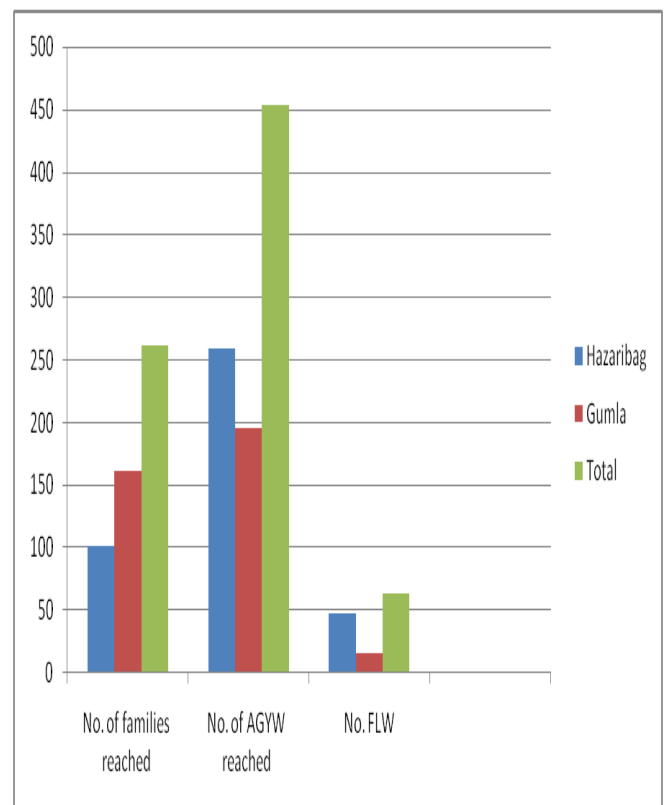
1. orphans/ children practising independent living
2. single parent
3. migrant workers
4. daily labourers
5. single women including widows
6. elderly people
7. families with no ration card

Direct Beneficiaries: As such we identified 262 vulnerable families mostly belonging to the scheduled caste, scheduled tribe and Other backward classes, under the above mentioned categories in 20 villages of intervention area who were provided with dry ration.

We also provided 454 AGYW with safety hygiene kit who couldn't get accessibility to these items or shops. Additionally, mobile phones of 41 peer leaders were also recharged with 3 months benefits of free calls and internet pack so that regular follow up and conversations and actions could be initiated through voice and video calls.

We also provided 64 Frontline workers (Sevika and Sahiyas) with the same.

The graph (beside) represents the same.



Some of the activities undertaken in response to COVID-19 pandemic in our intervention areas were as follows:

1. Distributing dry ration to vulnerable families comprising 15 kg Rice, 1 kg red lentils, 1 litre Mustard oil, 2 pkts masala packets (Turmeric & Mixed masala powder), 1 kg Bengal gram, 5 kg Atta, ½ kg Soyabeans, 1 pkt Salt.



2. Distribution of Safety and hygiene kit comprising 4 pcs Dettol/Lifebuoy Soap, 1 pkt Sanitary napkins, 4 pcs masks, 1 bottle handwash/ liquid dettol for adolescent girls and young women and frontline workers.

3. Mobile of 41 Peer Leaders were recharged so that regular discussions and follow up and sessions such as COVID-19 Prevention or situation of AGYW in could be done.

4. Creating awareness on COVID-19 such as 20 seconds hand washing, avoid touching face with hands including mouth, nose, and eyes, prevent hand shake and hugging, covering mouth and nose when you cough and sneeze, social distancing, washing vegetables, informing concerned personnel in case of fever, cold etc. and different government schemes for the COVID-19 relief.



5. Linkage of 185 vulnerable families and individuals with different Government schemes like Mukhiya Mantri Rahat Kosh, Dal bhaat yojana, Didi kitchen for daily cooked food, Aapda Prabandhan Yojana and dry ration from the anganwadi centres.

OUR WARRIORS



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