

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Project:

“Fights against COVID-19 pandemic through intensive protection & relief actions in Chikmagalur district, Karnataka State, India”

From JUNE 2021 to AUGUST 2021

Supported by:

People for Progress in India (PPI)
Seattle, WA.



People for Progress in India

Implemented by:



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SUMMARY LINE:

This is a narrative report of implementation of the COVID -19 disaster relief activities in seven backward villages of Tarikere Block in Chikamagalur district, Karnataka State, India. The project started on 23rd June 2021 and successfully completed on 31st August 2021. This intervention program created a ray of hope for 400 poor rural families during the second wave of pandemic in the country where the family was able to feed for a minimum of twenty days with three meals. The use of sanitizer and the re-usable facemask has supported these families to protect from the epidemic and keep them safe in public. By creating awareness among the rural communities has helped the villagers to be aware of the consequences of COVID-19 and to protect them by following all the necessary precautionary measures. We have taken a small effort to explain about how the people in seven backward villages benefited through this intervention programme with the support of People for Progress in India [PPI], Seattle, WA.

PROJECT DETAILS:

Title of the Project	“Fights against COVID-19 pandemic through intensive protection & relief actions in Chikmagalur district, Karnataka State, India”
Project Area / Location	7 Backward villages of Tarikere Block in Chikamagalur district, Karnataka State, India.
Targeted Population	400 families with an average population of 1500 (direct beneficiaries) (Migrant workers, Disabled, SHG members and COVID – 19 Survivals)
Supported By	People for Progress in India (PPI), Seattle, WA
Implemented By	VIKASANA (Organisation for Education and Social Development) Post Box No. 23 Galihalli Cross Tarikere -577228, Chikamagalur District Karnataka, India.
Project Director	Mr. A M Varghees Cleatas Chairman/ Project Director Mobile: 9448224872
Reporting period	23 rd June 2021 to 31 st August 2021

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PREPARATION:

The Vikasana management and staff together worked for packing the food kits and groceries for the migrant workers, disabled, and SHG members who are really in need of supporting hand for their survival during the second wave of pandemic, as they had no means of survival/ earning. Each food kit contained more than 10 food items that can feed a nuclear family for a minimum of twenty days with three meals a day this is a major support to the rural poor families who are finding difficult to meet their basic amenities during this pandemic situation. Apart from this, the team gathered the information about preventive measures from COVID -19, which was printed and displayed in public through banners, handbills and wall stickers.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:

1. COVID - 19 Awareness Programme for migrant workers, disabled, and SHG members:

The first wave of pandemic had made people housebound and mostly the people in the rural community were worried about the medical emergency in the country. During the second wave of pandemic, people developed the mindset that they have to work at any cost for their survival and to meet their basic amenities i.e. because they have been house bound for more than ten long months and most of the families had nothing to feed on. Therefore, with the second wave of pandemic the people acted much neglected due to this reason many people lost their lives. Apart from this, there was a negative opinion about the vaccination especially among the rural communities.

Due to these reasons, Vikasana team organised awareness programmes on various topics like COVID-19 preventive measures, personal hygiene, hand wash, use of mask & sanitizers, and taking vaccination. Under this project, Vikasana team was able to organise 05 awareness programmes with minimum participants of 30 in each awareness programme that covered minimum participants from two to three neighbouring villages. The participants included Migrant workers, Villagers, Disabled, Single women, SHG members and Senior citizens.

Outcome:

- 150 direct beneficiaries and their family members are been sensitized and aware on symptoms of corona virus and understood the effect of this disease.
- 150 direct and 250 indirect are Sensitized and aware on COVID – 19 preventive measures, personal hygiene, use of mask & sanitizers, and taking vaccination, among them 75% of beneficiaries have taken the vaccination and are following the preventive measures.
- 150 beneficiaries are now using reusable mask and sanitizers regularly when there are in public or in work place.
- Distribution of Handbills and wall stickers for the participants - the information about COVID symptoms, effects of the disease and preventive measures has reached large population with an average population of 300 to 350 indirect individuals and has benefited from the same.

2. Display of COVID - 19 preventive measures in public places through Banners, Wall Stickers, and distribution of Handbills :

In addition to awareness programmes on COVID-19 preventive measures, personal hygiene, use of mask & sanitizers, and taking vaccination Vikasana team had taken initiatives to display COVID-19 preventive measures in public places through display of banners in common place. Seven banners on COVID – 19 preventive measures has been displayed in seven villages of project area. Apart from this wall sticker is been displayed on individuals' doors, public place, and in public walls to create awareness and to share the information among the large population.

Outcome:

- An average of 2500 villagers in the project area are sensitized and aware on COVID – 19 preventive measures, personal hygiene, use of mask & sanitizers, and taking vaccination.
- Distributed 850 handbills and 100 wall stickers among the communities of project area this has helped in sharing the information about corona virus symptoms, effects and preventive measures.
- The existence of banner and handbills are alerting them from time to time stay safe, maintains social distance, hand wash and etc.

3. Distribution of Mask and Sanitizer for migrant workers, disabled, SHG members and their family members:

Over the years, the health department has observed that the personal hygiene and sanitation is always been neglected among the rural communities. This had also became one of the major reasons for increase in the COVID positive cases among rural communities, which also resulted in many death cases. Distribution of mask and sanitizer was the initiative taken up by Vikasana team as part of this project to create awareness on use of sanitizer and mask regularly to keep them safe during this pandemic. Another important objective was to create a habit among the rural communities to use mask and sanitizer to keep them safe from corona virus. The beneficiaries never used masks and sanitizer as it was not available in the village. They had to travel Lingadahalli town (10km) to get them, and they had no additional money to afford them due to this pandemic situation. With the distribution of mask and sanitizers has been helping them in safeguarding their lives and all these families are use them regularly.

Outcome:

- Sensitized and aware on use of mask & sanitizers among 150 poor families of seven villages in Tarikere Block and are now using the sanitizers and mask regularly
- Distributed 300 reusable facemask and 300 sanitizers among the communities of project area with covering 150 poor families
- 150 poor families who never used sanitizer are now never forgetting to use them.

4. Distribution of Food Kits to the migrant workers, disabled, widows and SHG members:

The Pandemic of COVID-19 has kept the entire country housebound for almost one and a half year and most importantly, it has affected highly the rural underprivileged communities, migrant workers widows, disabled individuals and mostly the labour class communities. Under this project Vikasana team has distributed 80 food kits to support these affected individuals and their family. We have distributed the food kits to 80 poorest of the poor families (rural underprivileged communities, migrant workers widows, disabled individuals and mostly the labour class communities). This kit compressed items like Ragi powder, Atta, Oil, Rice, Chilli powder, Soap, Sambar powder, Salt, Horse gram, Peanuts, Green grams, Dal, Rava, Turmeric powder, Sesame, Jeera, Jaggery. Normally they received only the rice from the PDS that alone cannot be enough to feed on for the survival. In most of the houses, there was no ration material to cook food and feed their family as there was no coolie or they had enough money to meet their basic amenities. The distribution of ration kit when there was no wage/coolie helped them a lot and filled their stomach for minimum of 20 days for a nuclear family.

Outcome:

- 80 poor families were able to fill their and their family members' stomach for twenty days with three full meals in a day when they had nothing to eat due to lockdown, no money and no wages/ coolie.
- Parents could able to feed their children happily with full meals for a period of twenty days during the crisis.
- Disabled individuals who had no means for money to buy groceries were able to fill their stomach happily for twenty days without depending on any one during this pandemic situation.

5. Distribution of Nutrition Kits to the COVID -19 survivals:

Many people lost their lives and many survived from the COVID 19. However, the social stigmatization and low immunity system still lasted for months together even after they survived from COVID-19. The stigmatization was so bad that people even refused to talk to them, not given coolie, many treated them as strangers, and so on. In addition to this, their body was weak and was finding hard to regain their energy. All these created psychological and financial burden on these survivals. Under this project, distribution of nutrition kit was organised to boost the immunity system of COVID survivals. We have distributed 50 nutrition kits to 50 COVID survivals to improve their immunity. In addition to it awareness is created among them on how to overcome social stigmatisation, use of mask & sanitizers regularly, and information materials is been shared to boost their confidence and knowledge about COVID preventive measures. During the intervention the individuals were asked share their journey of fighting COVID–19 and social stigmatization so that other beneficiaries to create awareness.

Outcome:

- 50 COVID – 19 survivals are now reunited with the social life with confidence and they are out of social stigmatisation and are reunited with society.
- Sensitization and awareness created among the common people to accept the COVID survivals with same respect.
- Increased immunity system and has helped these survivals to be strong during this second wave. Among these 50 beneficiaries, none of them were affected with corona virus during this second wave.

IMPACT WORDS FROM COMMUNITY:

1. Lakshmi Devi W/O (Late) Nanjundappa resident of Hulithimmapura is the member in Vikasana SHG at Hulithimmapura village, Tarikere Block. She was married at the age of 18 and lost her husband in the age of 25. She stays along with her two children, she do not have any land or property from which she can earn. She is the only breadwinner and her only means of income is through daily wage. Mrs. Lakshmi Devi claimed that she went is under a huge debt because she had no means to earn for her living. She claimed that by the end of first wave of pandemic she was out of source to fill her stomach and her children. Now with the support of Vikasana she is happy that she and her two children can eat three meals a day with full stomach. She has expressed her heart-filled gratitude to Vikasana and to the sponsors of this food Kit.
2. Lakshamma W/o (Late) Kenchappa is a widow and specially abled. She is 52 years old and is resident in Nagavangala village, Tarikere Block. She has a son who is married and lives separately along with his family. Lakshamma cannot go for labour work and her only means of survival is through the support of villagers, relatives and the monthly ration for the government. With the pandemic situation, she was left alone without any supporting hand for her survival. So she claims that the ration kit distributed by Vikasana team is a ray of hope in her life for her survival. She was in tears and was filled with joy when she received the kit. She said for more than a month she do not have to worry about filling her stomach. She has expressed her heart-filled gratitude to Vikasana and to the sponsors of this food Kit.

3. Vanajakshi W/o Hanumanthappa, are hailing from Veerapura village, Tarikere Block. They are very poor that they do not have even a house and they live in a small hut where there is no access to any basic amenities. The couple ate settled outside the village and deprived from all the basic amenities. The only source of their survival is through daily labour/coolie, the couple has to earn each day to feed them. They do not claim any government documents as result of which they did not receive any ration during this lockdown. The couple had to work even during lockdown for whatever money they were offered for and without any preventive measures. The couple was infected with corona virus due to these reasons. It is said by Vanajakshi that, “Vikasana team was the first person who came forward to help them during this pandemic situation”. She was very happy to receive food kit and nutrition kit, as that would help her fill the stomach and additional nutrition for her to recover from COVID. She has expressed her heart-filled gratitude to Vikasana and to the sponsors of this food Kit.

CONCLUDING LINES:

The emergence of COVID - 19 had kept the entire country housebound; especially the rural community was hit very badly during this pandemic situation. The second wave was big shock to every citizen of the country. With the support of People for Progress in India [PPI], Seattle Vikasana was able to undertake various COVID-19 relief activities in seven backward villages of Tarikere Block, Chikmagalur District. Averages of 2500 beneficiaries are enough sensitized on the symptoms of corona virus, understood the effect of this disease, preventive measures, personal hygiene sanitation, and taking vaccination to keep them safe. All these beneficiaries have come forward to adopt stay safe precautionary measures. Special care is given to the safety of children and aged people. These families are giving more importance to hand washing, avoid go out and maintained social distance due to our awareness programmes and distribution of 1000 handbills. 300 reusable facemasks, 300 hand sanitizer bottles were distributed to protect the life of rural people. These families never used masks and sanitizer are now never forget to use them. Normally masks and sanitizers are not available at the village level. They have to travel Lingadahalli town (10km) to get them. However, they do not have additional money to afford them. At this situation, the distribution of face masks and sanitizer was safeguarded their life. Vikasana team takes this opportunity to thank the PPI, Seattle team for their constant support cooperation through various projects in helping the vulnerable and rural communities.

Reported By:

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