

# A NEW DAWN

Updates from ASHRAY- South Vihar Welfare Society for Tribal



## OVERVIEW:

### Plight of Migrant workers

Migration from Jharkhand is the highest in the country as per the Economic Survey who have migrated to various cities to find employment sources. During COVID, the instances of death of migrant labours were very high due to widespread panic and lack of awareness. Phase 3 of lockdown alone witnessed a death toll of 118 migrant workers, as reported by The Indian Express. The deaths were mainly due to lack of nutrition and road accidents. Along with this, the family of these Migrant workers did not have access to food and nutrition due to loss in employment. Some labours even got stranded in the lockdown or were sent out of village due to myths of contracting the virus.

While doing more profound research, our team came across various incidents like the suicide of Kartik Sao. Kartik Sao, 40, father of a 12-year-old son and nine-year-old daughter, arrived from his workplace in Maharashtra. He was tested positive, and upon discovery, panicked and suicided. Thus, it was evident that awareness was vital to curb the myths and strengthen the community by teaching them good hygiene practice make available WASH kits for safety

COVID-19 has impacted each strata of society differently. Every individual has had his/her share of difficulties and roadblocks. We as a part of South Vihar Welfare Society for Tribal- Ashray got the opportunity to witness and contribute to the betterment of the plight of the migrant workers and their families at large. Since its inception, Ashray has continually been working towards fighting injustice and social discrimination. The unprecedented pandemic was no different with various programmes, from spreading awareness to providing shelter and distribution of essentials to uplift people.

## Our Initiatives

Ashray provided relief to Migrant workers in 3 fold through **Shelter, Nutrition and Awareness**.

10 of our Shelter homes were fully functioning throughout the lockdown as COVID centres. We were serving the homeless and stranded Migrant workers all time.

Simultaneously, we undertook a project in association with CASA. The objectives of our project entailed provision of food support to about 300 families of migrant labours, provide them with hygiene kits and spread awareness by educating 19 villages regarding good hygiene. The project was carried out at various locations in Lohardaga district. During distribution, the preventive measures of COVID-19 and the importance of WASH was taught to the beneficiaries.

## Results Achieved

Provision of dry ration was a relief to many families who entirely depended on cooked food by government. Many families had to starve due to lack of availability of food. Therefore, the provision ensured food security to all Migrant workers' family. The children and Women were the most vulnerable. They lacked education and awareness, hence our team helped them through an awareness drive ensuring gender equality



## Impact

Fuelling body during an emergency is very different from the everyday diet and therefore high protein ration was provided ensuring self-esteem of labours and their families. Spreading awareness and providing WASH kits has helped the families to follow the hygiene activities during COVID-19 and reduce the risk of contraction. Moreover, absence of Mid Day meals and Immunisation program was filled through these distribution drives. Thus, upliftment along with protection from food and nutrition crisis was ensured.

## Message from the Desk

*"Some quote by founder"*

*"Some quote by Secretary"*