COVID-19 Response & Impact Report

The Sustainable Response to COVID-19

Social and Development Research and Action Group
www.sadrag.org
COVID-19 Emergency Response by SADRAG

Comprehensive Report on our Ground Relief Work

*March 2020-August 2020*

Early March 2020 and 1.23 billion people of India were pronounced vulnerable to the threat of COVID-19. The nationwide lockdown was enforced with immediate effect. Human lives were restricted at home, on roads and on travel.

The people in our communities, being the migrants, were without food and money. The fragile savings were exhausted and people were gripped in the fear of catching the virus.

Our instant action was to reach out to people restricted in closed spaces and to provide them food and rations. We provided dry rations, milk, drinking water, protective gear and hand sanitiser in the community, child homes, government hospitals and Anganwadi centers.

Our work in the community continues with the mission to Nourish and Protect women, children and their families by all means.

Dr M. Bhandari  
Founder, SADRAG

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**Our Strategy**

We are mitigating the impact of Covid and lockdown crisis for low income group and migrant community by various means.

- Our endeavour is to solve hunger crisis and ease distress during the pandemic.
- Our ambition is to give these communities access to sanitation and hygienic environment.
- Our work is to nourish and protect children to prevent child wasting.
- We are distributing Nutrition & Protection Kits to children and women to keep them nourished and healthy.
- Our Digital bank is creating online learning opportunities for children and youth through access to digital tools
- Our goal is to fill the Information Gap on issues affecting children, women and youth through online education, webinars and collective talks.
**Our Critical Focus Areas:**

- Dry rations & Drinking water
- Nourishing & Protecting the children
- Protecting the Health workers
- Livelihood training to youth
- Addressing the Digital Gap
- Child Protection through Child Line 1098
- Educating vulnerable segment of population

**Implementation**

- **Nourishing & Protecting the Innocent Childhood:**

  We strongly believe that children can counter COVID-19 if they are well nourished and protected against the virus.

  A total of 1200 Nutrition and Protection kits (NPKs) have been distributed among women and children. Each Kit includes essential items needed for the nourishment and protection from the Corona virus, listed as below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NUTRITION</th>
<th>PREVENTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Item</strong></td>
<td><strong>Nutrition value</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk powder</td>
<td>High in Calcium &amp; Protein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parle G Biscuit</td>
<td>A good energy source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cracked wheat porridge</td>
<td>High in vitamins, minerals &amp;Fibre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semolina</td>
<td>High Protein, Fibre &amp; Vitamin B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glucon – D for a nourishing drink in summers</td>
<td>Fortified with Vitamin C for immunity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Nutrition and Protection Kits

The Kits have been distributed in migrant communities across District Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh among a huge population of slum dwellers and migrant labourers. Our aim has been to reach out to those who had been in extreme need. Most of the children have been from families who had lost jobs and means of livelihood and therefore have had no source of income to buy food. Most of them were found begging for food on the streets and roads.

When COVID-19 pandemic engulfed people all over the world in March 2020, we reached out to the families of Vidya Ratna Children and ensured that they had sufficient food at home. We made sure that each family had essential food items such as wheat flour, rice, oil, sugar & pulses as per their requirement. In lockdown, we had connected the households and the retail vendor to provide for essentials in each house.
We have reached to over 20000 Beneficiaries that include daily wage workers, small time vendors, pregnant and lactating mothers, orphans/abandoned children, families with disabled members, elderly headed household, female-headed households, migrant labourers in Delhi-NCR Region including the industrial town of Noida, Greater Noida and Dadri in U.P. And Gurugram in Haryana. Each Kit comprises food for nutrition and personal protective equipment (PPE) for the child.
Rani, a daily wager, lost her work and could not procure milk for her children due to lock down. Rani lives in Malin Basti, Greater Noida. They were feeding a little milk mixed with water to their children, the youngest being a 6 months toddler. We arranged milk packets for these families and also provided them dry ration that can be cooked and fed to children. To emphasize hygiene for the prevention of COVID, soaps were given with the message of the need for frequent hand washing by all.

In village Nagla, Noida, the men in three of these families worked in a factory and had lost their jobs due to lock down. The woman of the fourth family worked as domestic help and had three small children.

Due to sudden lockout, these families with 13 children between 2 to 12 years, were stranded in their rented rooms. Milk and dry rations were the essentials required by them. The Greater Noida Child Line immediately reached out to the stranded families with all the essentials.
Nutrition Kits distributed in village Nagla, Hoshiarpur, Nithari and Tugalpur in Noida and Greater Noida areas.

Nutrition and Protection Kits distributed in ICDS Anganwadi Center at Village Maalakpur, Greater Noida
Anil K. Singh, The Chief Development Officer, District GBNagar reviewed the distribution of Kits and Masks and appreciated our efforts to help in the times of COVID-19. The district Food Control department checked & endorsed the quality of the products distributed among the people. Appendix - I

*Food and Protection continues in Gaur City & Bisrakh in Greater Noida*

Construction workers build buildings and houses and make our life comfortable. During the lockdown, the work stopped and they remained penniless and without food. Nutrition Ki Gadi stopped at kachchi bastis situated behind Gaur City and Bisrakh in Greater Noida. A total of 220 Nutrition and Protection Kits were given to women and children.
Our Nutrition Van reached Sector-62 and 63 to nourish and protect the children from Navada Subji Mandi

Our Nutrition and Protection Ki Gadi reached every possible location where people were found hungry and were in need of nourishment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village Nithari, Noida</th>
<th>Tugalpur Village</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nagla &amp; Hoshiarpur Village</td>
<td>Dadri Santosh Nagar Slum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NaiAwadi Basti, Dadri</td>
<td>Surajpur slum area, Khanpur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noida sector 05, 06, 08, &amp; 10</td>
<td>Noida sector 62 &amp; 63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dankur village Rikhnajuggi,</td>
<td>Village lakwani AWC centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dhonarijuggi,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our Reach under COVID-19 Pandemic

Protection for Front Line Health workers

Worldwide, as millions of people stay at home to minimise transmission of severe acute respiratory syndrome Coronavirus, the health-care workers prepare to do the exact opposite. They remain in clinics and hospitals, put themselves at high risk to keep us protected from Coronavirus.

As the pandemic accelerates, the access of personal protective equipment (PPE) to health workers is a key concern. We provided 400 cotton reusable face masks to Doctors and Para medical staff in District Government Hospital.
6000 Kinley Water Bottles Distributed in Government Hospitals and Quarantine Centers at Dist. Gautum Budh Nagar, U.P.

Providing Protection Kits to children: Facemasks and Sanitizer provided in Government Observation Home for children in Conflict with Law, Dist. GB Nagar
Online Livelihood Training to Youth

In only a few months, the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has disrupted livelihoods for millions of young people worldwide. The ILO estimates that more than one in six young people have now stopped working due to the pandemic. Education and training opportunities for youth have also been interrupted, creating long-term implications for post-COVID recovery. Digital platforms are enabling students to pursue online learning, entrepreneurs to engage in e-commerce, and workers to earn income through online freelancing and microwork. These remote opportunities are particularly beneficial for young women and other vulnerable youth who have been disproportionately affected by the crisis.

In February 2020, we start the new session with 15 youth and the nation-wide lock-down was enforced. We shut the center and improvised ways to stay in touch with the youth. The best way was to go online. We arranged for virtual classes, making use of Smart mobiles that the youth has these days. Those classes continue to take place from the home of our Computer Trainer to the homes of our youth. The result is regular engagement with youth and the continuity of learning experience. We are now taking virtual class which is an online learning environment that allows for live interaction between the trainer and learners. These days, we are offering Virtual learning experience to the youth enrolled in Sarthak center.

We have three kinds of technical training courses running at present in Sarthak center.

1. Graphic & Print Design
2. Basic Computer Literacy
3. Basic Digital Literacy

Till date, we have trained 30 Youth in digital literacy and software training from underprivileged communities. These were virtual Classes conducted during the Lockdown Period.

We have collaborated with volunteers of The Barclays Finance, Noida for a one month Mentorship program with youth. Around 25 Sarthak youth are covered under this One to One mentorship program that entails online sessions of teaching and support to youth.
In Pandemic Situation, we arranged the guest lecture virtually with Mr. Satyam Singh, Consultant at Dr. Reddy’s Foundation, Delhi. The guest session was on Time Management, a skill crucially significant given the restrained resources of time and the expected deliverables.
Atmanirbharta Sarthak Youth

Atmanirbharta- When our youth home for self and their family. They are also made Hand Sanitizer with Alcohol, Aloe Vera Plant, Coconut Oil, Glycerine, Dettol and Vitamins Capsule.

Englishtia gets intense with Sarthak!

Mr. Alok Pal from Englishtia took class for sharing his time and skills with youth so as to improve their comprehension and spoken English.
Addressing the Digital Gap

In the emerging *New Normal* way of life during Corona times, the need for digital literacy has not only increased but has become the necessity of life for all especially for the children who may otherwise have to compromise with the 3As.

India has the distinction of a huge gap between the 2 Hs –

- Those who have resources and facilities to lead a good quality of life, and
- Those who have to constantly struggle for the basic necessities of life

We initiated a Digital Bank that can connect the two Haves with the overall aim of reducing the digital divide in the community so that learning for children is not disrupted and they can study online. The Digital tools included in the Bank are laptop, mobile phone, desktop, printer, camera, I pad or any other such tool that is useful for children and assist them for a diversified learning experience.

The specific objectives of the initiative are to:

1. Mobilise the digital resources for underprivileged children
2. Enable children to access the digital resources as per their requirement
3. Train children for using the online methods of learning
4. Support children for recurring costs of maintaining the digital resources
Manish lives in Shahdara with his parents and brother. His father works as a semi-skilled worker in a private company. Manish did the Graphic and Print Design course with us in 2018. Later, he was placed as a Graphic designer in a private company in Delhi. In Designing field, Manish needs a camera but cannot afford to purchase one. Manish can now practice photography which would help him improve the quality of work.

Daughter of a road side tea vendor, Sujata lives with her parents & 4 siblings in a rented room in village Harola in Noida. Sujata completed Class XII from Open School and joined Sarthak to train for a job. The lockdown occurred and Sarthak went online. She had no ICT tool at home. As lock down eased, Sujata visited our office every day for online classes. Today, Sujata can learn online from home.
Divya studies in Class 12. She lives with her parents & two siblings in a rented room in village Nithari in Noida. Her father is a tailor by occupation. Divya's father had lost his clientele during lock down. He uses the mobile to make desperate calls for work. Divya and her siblings could not connect for online learning. There was no way that a mobile could be purchased for online learning by the children. Now, the learning is resumed and managed by all.

Ajay was 12 years old when his father died. Since then, his mother has struggled to feed him and his two younger brothers by working as a domestic help. Ajay, 18 years, wants a job after completing class XII. To skill in photography, Ajay explored the relevant courses but found them out of reach. The option to learn through free online courses was out since he didn’t have a camera for practice. Digital Bank has enabled Ajay to become a skilled photographer and make a career out of the profession that he likes.
Child Protection in Covid-19

Violence prevention and response services have been severely disrupted during the COVID-19 pandemic, leaving children at increased risk of violence, exploitation and abuse. Caught amidst the socio-economic fallout of the disease and the all-pervasive sense of uncertainty and anxiety, children face heightened threats to their safety and well-being. All through the COVID-19 crisis and the lockdown in India, CHILDLINE 1098, the emergency helpline for children in need of care and protection, has continued to receive calls 24x7 without any disruption to take up interventions to prevent abuse, assist children in distress and provide emotional support.

Since March 20th, CHILDLINE has provided support to over 350 children in distress. The Greater Noida Child Line team remained on foot 24 hours a day to reach out to a child stuck without food, milk and other necessities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Type Of Case</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Child labour</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Child Sexual Abuse</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Nutrition needs</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
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<td>01</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Medical help</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Education Help</td>
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<td>03</td>
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<td>07</td>
<td>Physical Abuse</td>
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<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>Cyber Crime</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Care &amp; Protection</td>
<td>00</td>
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<td>01</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Child Marriage</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Child Trafficking</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
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<td>01</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Child Lost</td>
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<td>01</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Runaway</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Shelter</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Intervention</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Educating vulnerable segments of population

- **Online Safety of Children**

Following the complaints on fake identities and cyber bullying while children in schools attended the online sessions, we organised online sessions on online safety of children. The children and teachers and other officials of the schools were engaged with through these sessions.

**Session on online safety of children with of Greater Valley School, Greater Noida.**
**Advocacy on The World Day against Child Labour**

On The World Day against Child Labour, we participated in the District level webinar held by Shram Vibhag, District Gautum Budh Nagar. Using the platform, we highlighted the impact of COVID-19 on an increasing incidence of child labour in the times of disrupted economy, lost livelihoods and distressed families. We advocated for a stricter monitoring by district Shram Vibhag to ensure that children are not employed by the local industry in the district. We called for a collaborative effort with institutions, civil society and administration to ensure that no child drops out of school and join the labour force.

The webinar was attended by district administration official’s trade union activists and several civil society members.

COVID-19 may push more children towards Child Labour!

**Encouraging the Young Covid Warriors**

Pained by the miseries of migrant families, Dorika Poplai, a student of Delhi Public School, Noida took the initiative of mobilising the students of her school
and initiated Unnati for the betterment of socially and economically marginalised sections during the lockdown period.

Dorika’s Unnati conducted virtual workshops for the children of our Vidya Ratna program. These children had difficulty accessing and following the online sessions organised by their school. The Unnati volunteers took online sessions around the mainstream subjects of Science, Mathematics, English and Social Studies with the objective of sparking an interest amongst the children for them to continue with their school learning.
• **Leaning Art during the Lockdown!**

The Community radio, Salaam Namaste organized a Ganesha Art competition for our children on 20 August. Amid Covid compulsions, this art activity was a boon for Vidya Ratna and Sarthak children. They settled around the digital screen in our office and enjoyed learning and doing the Ganesha art.

![Image of children participating in the art activity]

• **Gutargoo like Pigeons:**

Gutargoo, an initiative by Salaam Namaste Community Radio encourages children and youth to tell stories through pictures. We mobilised children and youth in village Harola, to Gutargoo their stories through art and poetry. Feast to the eyes, the narration of stories through drawings is an ultimate in creativity of thoughts and expression especially seen in the difficult times of Covid-9.
Mitigating the Misery of Migrants

The current Coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak continues to spread, with growing numbers of confirmed cases in India. Lakhs of homeless and migrants are living on the streets with no sufficient space to quarantine amid in access to medical care and are therefore acutely vulnerable.

We are reaching out to every possible family at this time of crisis. We have some few case studies during the distribution:
My name is Reshma, and am presently living in Surajpur with my family. My husband's name is Ravi who is a rickshaw puller. We have 6 children. Due to pandemic, the government had imposed strict lockdown in the whole country. Since then, my husband's work has been shut down. We were starving from hunger due to lack of money. There were no sources of income left with us. We got little amount of food daily from the helpline camps initiated by the government. SADRAG is a non-profit organization which is trying to fulfil our basic essential needs by distributing nutrition kits and providing all the precautionary measures. The nutrition kit includes powdered milk, soap, dal, daliya, Suji, sugar, mask, sanitizer, etc.

Good nutrition is the medicine of Tomorrow!

My name is Chanda Devi. I am 29 years old, housewife. My husband is labourer and I have two small children. I came to Delhi on 20th February, 2020 and in March government imposed emergency lockdown in the country. We are facing lot of difficulties because of the lockdown and we are unemployed. We are not able to pay the rent. Our house owner helped us out with some essential food items. But my children’s are not getting sufficient nutrition and they have become weak. The nutrition kit has benefited my children’s health.
My name is Tarana. I am 28 years old, housewife living with my family. I have three small children. My youngest child is of 6 months. I came to Bihar from Uttar Pradesh on 20th February for finding a job. Before employing somewhere for the job the government imposed emergency lockdown country wide due to Covid-19 pandemic. For my family this sudden condition created lot of problems. We thought this will not stay for longer period of time but still nothing has been changed. Whatever saving was left with us has been exhausted and we took help from our relatives for money but they denied. I would like to thank SADRAG for helping us out in this difficult time.
My name is Jafri and I am a widow. I am living in Lakhnawali, Surajpur from last 6 year with my four granddaughters. I am run a small grocery shop in Surajpur. Due to lockdown my shop has been closed and facing difficulties. We were starving for food. Sometimes the government is reachable to us and provided us the food but still it is not enough for us to fulfil are hunger twice a day. The most difficult situation is for my granddaughter’s and the youngest one is of 6 years. We have no idea what to make her eat and how to give her basic nutrition food to keep her healthy. But SADRAG has helped us with a nutrition kit; it was very useful for my family.

My name is Shajda. I am living in Surajpur from last 15 years with my family near Medina Masjid. I have two children. My husband is a labourer. Due to this COVID-19 pandemic my husband is unemployed. We have no source of earning money, and we are facing lot of dilemma. My children’s are not able getting healthy nutritious food. I am very thankful to SADRAG for providing us with this nutrition kit. My children can get proper nutrition and milk daily. My children’s are very happy to receive this nutrition kit.
Fatima is a woman who is living in Noida sector 8, Gautam Budh Nagar Uttar Pradesh with his 1 year old daughter. She is living on rent. After some days of marriage her husband ran away leaving her alone. She was pregnant and had no source of earning.

She has given birth to baby girl and take care of her alone by begging on the roads and street for food and money. Because of the lockdown her living conditions were atrocious. There is no one in the city that could help her. She was left with no food, but some people helped her.

Then team SADRAG helped her out. SADRAG provided them with the nutrition kit for her daughter and her.
Pictures
Our Partners

Our endeavour to fight against the Covid wouldn’t have been possible without the institutional partners and support of individual members of the civil society.

Roshni - The Lioness Club Noida
Certificate of Quality food issued by Chief Development Officer of Dist. Gautam Budh Nagar
# Appendix - 2

## Fight against COVID -19

**District Gautum Budh Nagar, U.P.**

Providing Nutrition and Protection to Migrant families& children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Address/ location</th>
<th>Kind of Support</th>
<th>Total no. of families</th>
<th>No. of Adults</th>
<th>No. of Children</th>
<th>Total No. of Beneficiaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>District GBN Govt. Hospitals, Quarantine centers &amp; District Food Distribution sites</td>
<td>Drinking water*</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Government Observation Home for Boys in Conflict with Law, District GBN and Doctors &amp; Health workers in govt. Hospitals and Quarantine centres</td>
<td>PPE - Face masks &amp; 10 Litres Sanitizer ** Cotton reusable Face masks</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>650</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**With support of Moon Beverages Ltd., the authorized bottlers of Coca Cola, 500 cartons of Kinley water bottles@ the monetary value of 70800 INR.

**With Jubilant Bhartia Foundation 10liters of Hand Sanitizer was given for children and staff members at Observation Home for Boys, Noida.

*** 1000 Nutrition & Protection Kits are prepared with Milk powder, Pulses, Dalia, Suji, Sugar for nutrition of the children. The kit comprised cotton reusable face masks and Dettol soaps for protection from COVID-19.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>District Gautam Budh Nagar – Bastis in Sector-5, 6, 8, 10, 62 &amp; 63, Surajpur, Dankaur, Harola Village, Dadri, Tugalpur, Sirsa, Khanpur Village, Rikhnajuggi, Dhonarijuggi, mohallapreamnagar, Village lakwani AWC center, Gaur City &amp; Bisrakh Village</th>
<th>Nutrition &amp; Protection Kits for children**</th>
<th>1160</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>District Gautam Budh Nagar- Village Chithera, Dadri</td>
<td>Face Mask for Pregnant Women</td>
<td>12000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>126</strong></td>
<td><strong>6225</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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