



RAYS OF HOPE



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COVID-19 RESPONSE

KIRAN supporting communities during worldwide crisis

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The lockdown situation in India represents a gigantic challenge given the population magnitude and density. Majority of the population is affected by it but in different communities or groups it has different levels of impacts.

Within the country, millions of internal migrant workers and their families, including elderly, women and children leaving the cities as the lockdown imposed to limit the COVID-19 pandemic made them jobless. In order to reach their homes, many of them are walking hundreds of kilometres while carrying minimum items to survive.

The government had taken a number of significant measures including ensuring the distribution of food supplies as well as a few options for transportation. In spite of all these noteworthy efforts, further need to be done and supplemented as the human misfortune continues to unfold.

Our heart, prayers and wishes go for all lives in such movement.

THANK YOU

Kiran is deeply grateful for all the help and assistance received from the local authorities in two districts (Varanasi and Mirzapur) of Uttar Pradesh.

Thanks to contributions from different supporters and donors, the team involved in these variety of initiatives and to many people's efforts working remotely in this disrupted phase. Through their kind support, KIRAN was able to reach out to the most needy communities so that they can survive and manage through these challenging times.



Technology to connect with KIRAN's Executive Committee members

On the 26th of April, KIRAN's Executive Committee members connected through a web based application for updates and strategic discussions related to the organization. In the given lockdown situation, this online platform supported an exchange of information among presented members for some of the follow-ups and support in the decision making process.



A RAY OF EDUCATION DURING LOCKDOWN

*Challenges into opportunities:
Exploring new ways of learning*

The lockdown situation in the country to prevent COVID-19 pandemic happened suddenly. The educational activities in KIRAN were also affected by this situation, in which teachers and students have to stay at home. Children being deprived of any access to regular schooling for a long period of time, Kiran's education team had to think about new ways to maintain the possibility to study under those challenging circumstances. The discussions were done by teachers about learning methodologies through teleconferencing and decided to start preparing teaching subject-wise and class-wise.

The teachers provided access to some home assignments on different subjects, either by sending it as pictures through a smartphone or writing them on a bar phone. One of the Special Educators also made videos to engage children at home like yoga or other activities. Later, teachers began to digitally coordinate for homework given to children and guide them to new tasks through video calls, photos and/or by talking on bar phones. The team of teachers keep all these tasks documented. A regular communication was maintained to know the situation as well as to guide the families.

With this new experience of using information technology, parents of children with special needs and other children were excited as well as overwhelmed to achieve new tasks for their children's learning and guidance at home. This critical situation is affecting many people but a dedicated team is striving daily to engage, educate and guide children and their parents. This experience during tough times opened up new doors for education endeavors.





Practical work assignment & online classes for the teachers' trainee

As a part of the curriculum, teacher trainees in Diploma in Special Education affiliated by Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) have to complete and submit four different individual assignments that they have done throughout the year for evaluation by an external examiner assigned by the National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation (NBER).

In the lockdown situation of COVID-19, the KIRAN team facilitated and supported all students for the format and procedure of their respective assignments through phone and online group discussion.

The follow-ups were also done which supported all teacher trainees to complete their assignments. The online classes were introduced from 15th April 2020 for the teachers' trainee. It was a new experience due to many of them residing in rural areas wherein internet connectivity is a challenge. It took a bit more time than expected to get used and adapt to this new way of learning and usage of information technology.

Some trainees were oriented repeatedly to avoid or deal with technical issues during such regular online classes. Now, most of them are pleased to be part of this online forum. An opinion poll has been conducted among these trainees regarding the quality and effectiveness of those online classes, the feedback is to continue online classes throughout the week.

COVID-19 HEALTHCARE RESPONSE

An approach to maintain Kiran's support to children with disabilities and their parents

Since the abruptness of the COVID-19, social distancing and restriction of inter-district/interstate movements have adversely affected the life of children with or without disabilities and their families.

Children with disabilities have been deprived of rehabilitation services and assistance to perform their daily life activities. However in KIRAN, the services have been kept open to serve the most needy, for those with urgent/not deferrable conditions. In continuation of this effort, during this month three young children less than a year old, who are suffering from foot deformities were treated through serial plaster casting and provided with customized supportive devices. While delivering services to these children, the involved staff have taken standardized health safety measures under the supervision of the medical director.



The team is connected telephonically with such children and their parents and guiding them in continuing home-based therapeutic activities. This support is instrumental to reduce the fear of the epidemic situation among parents and promote the health of children with disabilities.

KIRAN keeps in constant touch with parents of the children through telephonic conversations /WhatsApp/ video conversations. Parents are encouraged to follow the exercises for physical (locomotor and hand functions) and speech, and the educational activities prescribed at home. Depending on the needs, activities were adapted as well as contextualized with individual rehabilitation plans. The parents are proactively participating in such tele rehabilitation efforts and sharing videos/photos of the therapeutic activities.



176 Children contacted by phone

The frequency and duration of phone calls depends on the need of parents and children. This service will continue till the end of the lockdown.



32 children on ongoing medical therapy

They have received free medicines from KIRAN for one month with further support planned.

For children with epilepsy, severe spasticity and behavior issues, regular medication is vital and essential to maintain functional and intellectual abilities. To meet those needs and keep them healthy, free medicine support was carried out door to door to support 32 designated children with disabilities living in 3 different blocks of two districts (Varanasi and Mirzapur) of Uttar Pradesh.

The psychological support is provided to help parents in coping with the stress due to social restrictions related to the COVID-19. Meanwhile, parents are urged to strictly and carefully follow the guidelines issued by the government for prevention of contagion (staying at home, handwashing, social distancing, keeping informed with governmental updates).

COVID-19 RELIEF INITIATIVE

Support through funds transfer



KIRAN supported **83** families

35
Education



19
Support Functions



29
Inclusion



35
Male



48
Female



In an early stage of the lockdown, one of the strategies to support families of daily labourers/wages in need was to directly transfer some funds (through cash/bank) to meet their immediate and urgent needs.

This strategy gives various advantages which includes direct and full support to selected beneficiaries, no transaction fee or delays, avoiding the expected time required for procurement process, choice and decision making in the hand of beneficiaries, minimum safety issues to the staff members, and lastly no movement permission was required from the authorities. Apart from supporting identified beneficiaries, such bank/cash transfers also support in building the local market capacities for essential items that are available and functional in some of these places. Wherever possible efforts were made to do such transfers in the name of the female member (mother/wife/guardian).

CASH TRANSFER

KIRAN provided support to families of daily labourers/wage earners in the peripheral area. A total of 19 poor families sought attention who are directly or indirectly associated with KIRAN. A cash support of 1000 INR was provided to female beneficiaries from these identified families to support in meeting their daily and urgent needs.

BANK TRANSFER

Due to the lockdown, some youngsters with and without disabilities belonging to poor families were in need of daily essentials, food and health related support. KIRAN came forward to help the most needy among those youngsters. A total of 30 youngsters were supported through bank transfer of 1000 INR.

A few words and pictures as a gesture of gratitude



KRISHNA KUMAR



PRIYANKA PRAJAPATI



RANJAN PATEL



RANVEER PATEL



DIVYA GUPTA



SANJAY KUMAR

I want to thank Kiran for everything they have done for me during this difficult time. Their financial support means a lot to me, and I utilized it for some essential goods and to purchase grocery items. I will always be thankful for all the help received from Kiran Society since I was a child.

SHREYA MISHRA

During the lockdown, I received support from Kiran which I used to buy some food items for Ramzaan and lunch. I am very thankful to KIRAN to fulfill my family needs. Kiran's support is seen as a gift of Allah.

YASMIN PARVEEN

An ex-student of Kiran Society, lucky to get financial support from Kiran. The Society as always steps ahead to help the people's cause. I will always be very grateful to them for this. This support had helped me and my family purchase some necessary groceries which we were lacking.

IMRAN AHMAD

Staying at BHU Varanasi, as well as many others, I received help from Kiran as part of a relief initiative to face this critical situation. With this support, I purchased some necessary food grains. Thank you!

SUNNY KUMAR KANNAUJIYA

I got crucial financial support during this pandemic thanks to Kiran Society. Thank you very much for your hard work and best wishes.

RASHID NISHA

I would like to thank Kiran who supported me during this pandemic situation. I used this financial support for my daily needs and to purchase essential items.

PRIYA SINGH

At a time of economic crisis caused by COVID-19, I received financial assistance. I thank Kiran Society who helped me and my family. Kiran has always been of great support in many ways since I joined the Society.

KRISHNA KUMA

I would like to thank Kiran for assisting me and my family with financial and psychological support to face this situation. I used that money for grocery products and for my father's medicine. Many thanks to Kiran society!

ROHIT DUBEY

Thank you so much for Kiran's kind consideration during the pandemic situation due to COVID-19. I have utilized the same for my father's health.

SANJAY KUMAR

Many thanks to Kiran for helping me during the lockdown. I used the money to purchase daily needs. How nice it is from KIRAN to care like that, it's amazing! There aren't any sources of income for my family because clothes weaving work is not going on. This support allows us to survive in this crucial time.

GULISTA BANO

Living in a village near Varanasi, I am staying at home due to COVID-19. Thanks to the support provided by Kiran society, I was able to purchase some essential goods. I am always grateful for their support.

ANIL YADAV

First I would like to thank Kiran for assisting me and my family with financial and psychological support in this situation. I used that money for some daily needs and for my father's medicine. Many thanks to Kiran society's from the bottom of my heart!

ROHIT DUBEY

I am very thankful for the help given by Kiran Society as my family was in need. Due to the lockdown, my father was not able to earn any income, so I gave him the money I received. He has used this money for the welfare of the family. I am forever grateful for Kiran Society.

VIKAS MAURYA

COVID-19 RELIEF INITIATIVE

Nutritional & hygiene support



KIRAN supported **260 families**

31
Education



52
Support Functions



177
Healthcare



155
Male



105
Female



PLANNING

With volunteers & staff members

1



PACKAGING

15 kg supplies per family

2



LOADING

3 vehicles with e-pass

3



ON-SITE

2 blocks

4



REVIEW

Feedback & suggestions

5



PLANNING

On Thursday, 23rd of April an orientation on guidelines for relief distribution and safety measures was conducted to acknowledge the field situation, ensure efficient distribution with proper safety measures. Key points elaborated were type of emergency, local participation, team coordination, proper documentation, site planning and management, physical distancing, communication to beneficiaries, safety kits and most importantly respect and dignity for beneficiaries while providing support.

PACKAGING

The relief supply package includes:

Nutritional supplies		Hygiene supplies	
Pulses	2Kg	Sanitary Pads	For 2 to 3 months
Grains	2Kg	Soap	4 pcs
Mustard oil	2Lt	Dishwasher	2 pcs
Spices	250gm	Soap for washing clothes	2 pcs
Soyabean	1Kg		
Vegetables	5Kg		
Jaggery	1Kg		

LOADING

Items provided falling under the category of goods and services categorized as 'Essential by the State Government', KIRAN applied and received movement-pass for three vehicles from concerned local authorities.

All nutritional and hygiene kits were loaded and transported to the farthest targeted blocks to make sure beneficiaries living in those areas would be able to receive some support in case of the future restriction on movement.

ON-SITE

On the 27th of April 2020 Kiran distributed in the following four places of Pindra block of Varanasi District:

- Panchoshivala, Rasoolpur
- Hanuman Mandir, Tikri Kala
- Hanuman Mandir, Ramaipatti, Babatpur
- Primary School, Marudih

On the 29th of April 2020 Kiran distributed in Kashi Vidyapeeth block of Varanasi district:

- Madhopur village (closed to Kiran premise)

REVIEW

On Thursday, 30th of April 2020, KIRAN held a review of the distribution process. Every team member from the relief distribution team shared his/her feedback and some elements were highlighted to make some improvements for such future initiatives.

The broad areas of discussions included the overall experience of relief distribution process, what went well, what didn't go well and a few recommendations to make it better.



To help out children with and without disabilities and poor families, KIRAN provided support of nutritional and hygiene kits. The team coordination and respect of safety measures like wearing masks, gloves as well as regular hand washing ensured everyone's safety.

Mr. Sandeep Srivastava
Special Educator (Out-reach Unit)



Due to COVID-19, KIRAN advised all of its children with or without disabilities and marginalized families to stay at home as much as possible and to maintain distance with other people in case of any external movement. A leaflet with key messages was shared with all beneficiaries.

Mr. Ganesh Kumar Prajapati
Special Educator (SOIR-IM)



To fight this pandemic, especially women were advised on a number of different ways to prevent them and their families from COVID-19. Along with nutritional support, basic hygiene items were provided including sanitary protection to help them through these difficult times.

Mrs. Pritee Devi
Social Worker (CBR)



Upstream planning in KIRAN led to an efficient distribution. It included a careful identification, selection and preparation of a list of beneficiaries including children with and without disabilities, women and poor marginalized families using criterias to support most needy.

Mr. Gopal Yadav
Education Coordinator (CBR)

PLANNING, MONITORING & REVIEW

23rd & 30th of April



PACKAGING & LOADING

25th & 28th of April



IN ACTION: ONSITE

27th of April



IN ACTION: ONSITE

29th of April



DONATE

Avail tax benefit under 80G

**YOUR
SUPPORT
is valuable**



For more information visit us at www.kiranvillage.org
or reach us at **+91-7571010009**
write to us at mail@kiranvillage.org

*"I don't think of all the misery,
but of all the
BEAUTY,
that still remains"*

Anne Frank