



**Voice of Children Covid-19 Emergency Response -2nd Phase**

2020



## COVID-19

### Voice of Children-Covid-19 Emergency Response –2nd Phase

During the breakout of the COVID-19 pandemic, the economically unprivileged and socially weaker sections succumbed to the situation; people were deprived of earning sources and were barely left with any money for their survival. This unforeseen situation made life of many vulnerable people difficult especially the migrant workers, widows, daily wage workers, elderly, ill and handicapped.

And during these harsh times AMAN and Vimarsh collectively provided aid to bring relief to these vulnerable people by providing groceries to the needy, hygiene kits to girls and nutrition kits to children in different work areas.

All this relief work was completed following all the norms of social distancing. All the volunteers were educated regarding all the risk factors and ways to protect themselves during distribution.

#### **DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF MATERIAL- PROVISION KITS**

The pandemic fabricated a lot of difficulties for people and emptied their grain barrels and even left them with no money. The elderly, widows and handicapped were unable to get their pensions due to no transportation to their banks and the daily wagers had no work, in this drastic situation the funds provided under the VOC programme served as a godsend to them.

With the help of village head, the women's organisation of each village selected the most deprived families and people for food distribution. Some of the people were selected again in this second round of distribution due to their vulnerable condition.

A total of 198 families benefitted through this distribution, 97 families were selected in the Almora district by AMAN and 101 families were selected by Vimarsh in the Nainital district.

#### **PROVISION KIT DISTRIBUTION IN QUARANTINE CENTRES-**

The backbone of the families who were earning outside and were sending money to their families residing in village also lost their jobs and were forced to reverse migrate back to homes. These people were kept in quarantine centres for everybody's safety but unfortunately the Government was not providing the centres with food and other necessities so more or less they too were becoming a burden for families who were struggling for their own food. So both organisations provided food grains and edibles to these centres. 50 people who were quarantined were provided with the relief material; kits were made available for 26 people by AMAN while Vimarsh provided food to 24 families.

#### **DISTRIBUTION OF HYGIENE KITS-**

Hygiene becomes one of the most prioritised aspects while talking of prevention from the COVID-19 virus but no facilities for cleanliness were provided by the government to the quarantine centres. Some centres had water shortage, some had no electricity, while the others had no toilets. People were suffering due to lack of cleanliness and to ensure this, Vimarsh provided hygiene kits to 10 quarantine centres which included room sanitizers, hand sanitizers, gloves, masks, buckets and jugs

for collecting water. In addition, sanitary pads, soap and masks were also provided to 214 girls of the Almora district. In the Nainital District, masks were provided to 107 people and sanitary pads to 67 girls.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF NUTRITION KITS-**

During the COVID-19 situation, nobody thinks about the children's nutrition and food. With the valuable support of TRAS, both organisations had prepared the baby food. The children between 7 months to 5 years who were victimized due to the lockdown and were unable to get proper nutrition were provided with nutrition kits including porridge, instant



baby food and minor-millet's biscuits for their proper development. 166 children were selected by AMAN and 29 children were benefitted in Vimarsh's work area.

### **CASE STUDIES-**

NAME- Mrs CHAMPA DEVI

AGE- 72

VILLAGE- BAS GAON

BLOCK- BETALGHAT

DISTRICT- NAINITAL



Champa Devi is a widow residing in Basgaon in the Betalghat Block. She has no children and also lost his husband a few years ago. Since then she is living alone and was dependent on her brother-in-law for money as due to old age she was unable to work and had no source of income. Even if the money sent by her brother-in-law sometimes becomes inadequate, she had to somehow manage.

But the lockdown situation created a huge problem for her as her brother-in-law could not send money. She, at least managed to get food grains from a nearby store but later even he refused to give her more. Then some of her neighbours provided some food to her but that also ended after a few days. She was in misery, until food grains and other edibles provided by Vimarsh under the VOC programme turned out to be a blessing for her. She got enough grains to last for some time and was very thankful to the organisation and praised the relief work done for people.

NAME- SUNITA DEVI

AGE- 40

HUSBAND'S NAME- HARSH SINGH

VILLAGE- MALYALGAON

BLOCK- BETALGHAT

DISTRICT- NAINITAL



Sunita Devi is a resident of Malyalgaon in the Betalghat Block. She has a big family of six members, and was currently living with her 4 daughters and her husband, who provided the family with money while working in a hotel in Delhi. But due to the lockdown he lost his job and could not send money. This made it really tough for Sunita Devi to manage their food expense. Some of her neighbours helped but it was not adequate and the government ration shops were only providing rice, so she was faced with a lot of problems. A few weeks later even his husband returned home and was kept in a quarantine centre. His food necessities were taken care by the village head to reduce the burden on Sunita. Due to these reasons and miserable condition she was selected by Vimarsh for relief food distribution.

After getting food grains and some more edibles she was very happy and thanked the organisation.