

## August 2021 – Update from Chauntra Settlement

We have currently five students between the ages of 5 and 12 being supported by TRAS Canada.

Two of the students are attending the Sambhota School, Chauntra. Actually, school couldn't fully open due to the order from the state government but since July, has been running daily for 2 hours in the name of tuition without wearing uniforms. Students are not allowed to come in the school without proper masks.

One student goes to TCV Suja as his mother is a caretaker in the hostel. TCV Suja has been kept locked down where outsiders couldn't come inside the gate and classes were going on inside on the tuition basis.

Two students attend the Petoen School, Dharamsala. The school has a hostel, and the children are also not allowed to go out. It is locked down, and no outsiders are allowed. School is open and classes are also being held informally.

During the second wave of COVID, the situation was so bad here particularly in the months of May and June, 2021. There were 6 to 10 Covid cases found daily in those hard months, fortunately there was only one death. Here in the settlement, 99% of the population is vaccinated (all are above 18 years).

There is no vaccination available for children at present, but as soon as it is available in the state then we will do our best to provide vaccines to the children. But as a precaution, our office is providing a Tibetan herbal medicine (immune booster) to all the children below 17 years of age including infants.

Now, everyone here is talking about Covid third wave which has not started yet but everyone is taking precautions. Due to the pandemic, people couldn't go out for winter sweater business which affects so many people as winter business is their sole income source for the family. Pandemic is not vanished but people are now readying for the current winter business because if they don't then it will become very difficult for their families.

Thank you very much for your support.

Our regards to all the sponsors and Board members of TRAS for always being there for the needy ones.