

WHAT HAS CHALE CHALO BEEN DOING DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC?

Covid – 19 Update covering 32 villages in the Boden and Sinapali Blocks (Didi Project Area) in Nuapada District

The world is facing an unprecedented challenge with communities everywhere affected by the growing COVID-19 pandemic. This is the time for everyone to unite to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, bringing together governments and non-government organizations from across industry, the voluntary sector and individuals to help respond to this global outbreak.

In this crucial period our team at Chale Chalo has initiated and facilitated activities in coordination with village-level service providers, PRIs and line departments following the Covid-19 guide-line of government of Odisha and India. The people of our project areas continue to lead positive lives in spite of serious difficulties.

The campaign on COVID-19 continues in our operational area of Nuapada and Kalahandi district of Odisha. It has several threads:

1. Raising awareness of COVID-19
2. Support to returning migrant workers
3. Dealing with the economic impact.

In the lockdown period, the following problems beset the villagers, and CHALE CHALO is helping address these issues:

- People have been compelled to stay at home to protect themselves from Covid virus.
- Wage-labourers have lost their daily income.
- Agricultural work, particularly land preparation for Khariff, paddy cultivation was delayed. This will cause a drop in yield.
- Locally-grown vegetables spoiled due to transportation problems and closing of markets.
- Migrant workers from every village of five panchayats have not yet returned to their villages.
- They are now staying at the emergency shelters of Andhra Pradesh, Gujrat, Raipur, Chennai, Maharastra etc.
- Children, pregnant women, lactating mothers, elderly persons of every house are also suffering mentally and lacking proper care.
- People with a work card have received Rs 1500 (₹15) from the government. But those who have not yet renewed their cards have not received the grant.
- Ration card holders have received Rs 1000/- and food for 3 months @ 5 kg per person. (@Rs1 /Kg) from food security scheme of government of Odisha.
- Persons who have Dhanjan A/c have received Rs 1500/- on line (for three months @ Rs 500 per month)
- No provision of sanitizer by the government line department so far.
- Insufficient masks supplied by government.

- Defunct tube wells still unrepaired in some villages; Didi Groups have renewed pressure with some success.
- Awareness-generation through mobile vani is continuing in different villages on protective measures as per the government guideline.

Survey for migrated people is continuing...

Till 30th April we have following information on migration. (Panchayat-wise)

Bharuamunda	337
Nuapada	120
Khaira	105
Sunapur	Survey continuing
Pharsara	182

Each day more migrants are coming back to homes . . .

Support being provided during lock down period:

- Awareness generation through Mobile Vani. instruction to use masks, wash hands, and social distance
- Free distribution of mask /soap/sanitizer to families in our operational villages with the permission of local administration.
- Support to local administration as volunteer in distribution of food and support price from government.
- Support to migrant labourers who are outside Odisha
- Support in campaign to ensure proper water supplies to villages.
- Support for villagers claiming their entitlements.

Support needed after lock down:

- Distribution of kitchen garden plants (papaya, green chilly, drum stick, ladies finger, brinjal) to the villagers which can be helpful to provide safe and nutritive vegetables in the short time.
- Provide support to prepare community vegetable cultivation for the women group. Members of women's group will be economically benefitted by selling the vegetable in the nearest market.
- Providing alternative livelihood support for the women groups.
- Advice and support in claiming government benefits and schemes.

CHALE CHALO is preparing a project proposal which will address the long-term needs of villagers. It plans to run for twelve months in the post-lockdown period, from July this year. This will focus on training and support for setting up kitchen gardens in local villages, to ensure families have sufficient food, and support in claiming access to government schemes and benefits. We hope to be able to support this important work.

SOME LOCAL STORIES – Mid MAY, 2020

Migrant Laborers are all enthusiastic to return home and to safety

Migrants Laborers have been walking and walking and walking hundreds and hundreds and hundreds kms from one corner to another to reach at their homes / villages..

Prasana Jal, 36, Kirtan Jal. 38, Khantu Nag of Nuapada village district Nuapada went to Visakhapatna on 3rd February 2020 for earning more money by working in a chemical company. But due to lockdown starting from 22nd March all the earning sources closed. Company closed. So, these three persons forced to stay in the quarantine centre operating there. After 14 days they decided to return their native place and stated journey on foot and crossed 30 kms. Local police helped them to come to their place by truck going in this way. With lot of difficulties they reached at Vijaynagaram via Devpur and Junagarh. Lastly they reached at their village by walking



another 12 kms. As they were returned from outside state people of this village forced them to stay at their village quarantine centre for another fourteen days. Now all these three persons are in their village and looking for a reliable source of income from nearby villages.

Plight of Migrant labour due to lockdown

Nara Devguru, 35, and his wife Dalimba Devguru, 33, sons Madhusudan Devguru, 15, and Balaram Devguru of Nadigaon under Ghantiguda of Silapali block Nuapada district. They prepare Laxmi Idol using paddy and sell it. But the income is not sufficient for their livelihood. They don't have any land. But they have a ration card in order to get some ration under food security scheme of government of Odisha.



With acute poverty Nara Devguru went to Chhatisgarh on 28th January 2020 in order to earn more and stayed at Mugia village, Chhatisgarh, trying to start a new life with his family. His son, Madhusudan, had gone to Raipur earlier. But due to outbreak of Korona epidemic entire world became lockdown and entire family members had to stay in the quarantine centre for 14 days. After 14 days all members decided to leave Chhatisgarh by foot and eventually reached on 1st May 2020 at Nadigaon, their own village.

Sarapanch of Ghantiguda requested Nara Devguru to stay at quarantine centre in his village school as their have come from outside state. Jay Durga SHG has taken responsibility for preparation of food to quarantine members. But Madhusudan is still at Raipur so other family members are worried about how their son is living there. Till yet he has not received any food support provided by government as they were absent in the village.

CHALE CHALO ENSURES PROPER RATIONS ARE DISTRIBUTED



Beneficiaries of Bharuamunda, Barpadar, Harelpadar under Bharuamunda Gram Panchayat are receiving three months rations 15 kgs of rice and 3 Kgs of Dal following Korana guideline on 12th May 2020.

CHALE CHALO PROVIDES AWARENESS TRAINING ON CORONAVIRUS



On 13th May Ward member, Samiti member and Didi group members were oriented on the guideline of Kovid-19 at Amera by the representative of Chale Chalo, Chandrakanti.

THE NEED FOR PROPER PROVISION OF WATER IS HIGHLIGHTED AND DEMANDS MADE BY DIDI GROUPS



One tube well has been defunct at Amera village. Didi group members of Amera have requested their Sarapanch for its necessary repair very soon, so they have proper access to water during the coronavirus crisis..



One tube well has been defunct at Banjhibahal village. Didi group members of this village have requested concerned Sarapanch for its necessary repair very soon, to provide sufficient water for proper hygiene during the coronavirus crisis.



On 13th May twenty three migrant labours arrived back from Gujurat to Pharsara Gram panchayat in Boden block. They used pond for bathing purpose. Didi group members highlighted this issue with the fear of transmitting the diseases to community people and requested Block Development Officer to stop the use of the pond by migrants and to provide water through tanker for drinking purposes. Now all the labourers are in the quarantine centre and block administration is providing drinking water to villagers.



Six people from Talpadar went to Khurdha on last January 2020. Due to Corona Crisis they returned to village on 10th May and are now staying at his village primary school quarantine centre . The village people requested them to obey the guideline of Korona for 14 days. The representative of Chale Chalo , Jyoti priya is discussing with the PRI members and ASHA worker on the precautions of Korana.



As the temperature increases daily ,Shri Lalita Nag, a differently abled person (blind person), is giving free safe drinking water to persons who are going on this road at Banjibahal.



Left: Awareness meeting organized at Bheruamal village of Pharsara Gram panchayat on hand washing, social distancing and quarantine management on 11th May 2020.

Right: Banjibahal Didi group members, Gaon Sathi, oriented on Hand Washing and Social Distancing . Discussion on water problem & pond renovation under MGNREGS on 11th May.











Girish Chandra Rout, age 40, village Gambhariguda, returned to his village from Raipur by cycle and staying at quarantine centre (in the village school).



On 11th May, Labourers are coming to Khariar from Titilagarh by Bus. Pic-Nandlal

SUMMARY OF WORK IN GOLAMUNDA BLOCK, KALAHANDI

Campaign/ Activities	Coverage	Photos
Proper hand-washing for prevention of Covid-19 to mothers and other community pupils.	AWWs, ASHAs, HWs (m & f) demonstrated proper hand washing practice during door to door visit in 22 villages	
Home visits for counseling on COVID-19	350 home visits were carried out by our community coordinator with ASHAs, ANMs, AWWs	
Meetings during VHND session.	Five meeting programs conducted at AWC with mothers groups, matru committee, GKS members.	
<p>A) COVID-19 awareness through mobile vaani.</p> <p>B) Mobile vaani survey taken for generating awareness and to know pupils living status.</p>	Meetings to raise awareness of this facility leading to 359 making calls to Odisha mobile vaani for listening to COVID-19 advice.	

<p>Awareness on social distancing at work sites with their livelihood activities</p>	<p>15 sites covered in Bagmunda and other villages.</p>	
<p>Regular coordination with Gram Panchayat for the care of migrant person.</p>	<p>Coordination with Gram Panchayat to provided hospitality and lodging in the shelter home.</p>	
<p>Push call to beneficiaries through Odisha mobile vaani.</p>	<p>For the awareness generation One time push call provided through odisha mobile vaani with the message of COVID-19</p>	
<p>THR & Ration of preschool children distributed as per his/her quota with AWW.</p>	<p>The THR, rice rations and other material for preschool children is distributed in 28 villages.</p>	
<p>Meeting with Line Department (Doctors, ASHAs, AWWs, ANMs, PRI members) to gain their support for village wise awareness program.</p>	<p>The village-wise campaign program conducted in 20 villages with Doctor participation (photo showing social distancing)</p>	

Meeting with line department i.e. Doctor, AWW, ASHA, ANM, School teacher & PRI members for sensitization on COVID-19.

The meeting was conducted at Mahaling high school line department i.e. Doctor, AWW, ASHA, ANM, School teacher & PRI, SMC, SMDC members participated for sensitization on COVID-19.

