






## TEMPERATURE CHECK

The economic impact of lockdown, necessitated by COVID 19, has been disruptive on India's economy, and it has been estimated that at least half the number of businesses in India have been significantly affected because of logistical issues and disruption of supply chains. Logistical problems have made it difficult to move people and goods, raw and finished, bringing down the earnings of the businesses and affecting those dependent on them. Labor-intensive sectors like agriculture and construction have incurred losses due to the inability to harvest crops or complete ongoing projects, partly due to the conditions imposed by lockdown and partly due to their inability to support operations. Workers, who have lost work, are migrating to native villages, raising fears of problems in restarting businesses on relaxation or lifting of restrictions imposed during the lockdown. The inability to restart work would lead to the extension of losses, incurred by businesses, and reduce their profitability and employment potential, which, in turn, would adversely affect the economy. Though all sectors of the economy are suffering because of the lockdown, Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) have been particularly badly affected because of the size of such enterprises, limited investments, limitations in borrowing capacity, and narrow profit margins. Several micro-enterprises are nearly invisible because of their small size, informal sources of credit, and informal systems of work. The invisibility of such enterprises may work to their advantage during normal times but makes them vulnerable to collapse in times of crisis.

A tragic dimension of the adverse impact of the lockdown on the economy is the effect it has had on a large number of workers, many of whom were migrants from other parts of the country. The numbers are staggering as it has been estimated that nearly 40 million internal migrants have been affected by the lockdown. Loss of earnings would push workers deeper into poverty, reducing their ability to support themselves and their families. Such workers would require external financial support, in the form of cash transfers, to survive. However, meeting the needs of such workers would also be a humongous task, considering the numbers, and would need substantial financial allocation which would be an additional burden for the already stressed economy. Since several enterprises may have to be closed and many others would need to work at reduced capacity, long-term support to workers would be required.

The economic impact of COVID 19 is thus expected to last for a long time, affecting the industries, that support the economy, in terms of material and manpower.

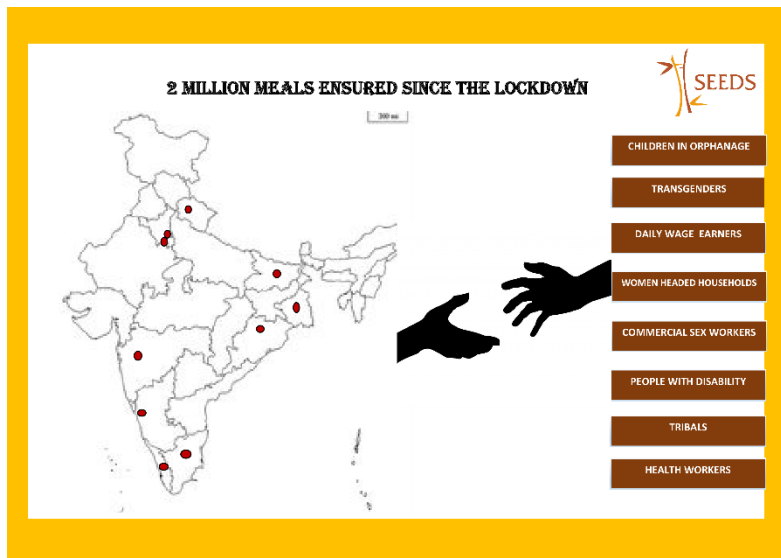
### REACHING OUT AND MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

 <p><b>Dry Ration</b></p>	 <p><b>71900</b></p>
 <p><b>Family Hygiene Kit</b></p>	 <p><b>55540</b></p>
 <p><b>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE's)</b></p>	<p><b>2850 Kits Distributed</b></p>



*"I work in the neighbourhood houses as a maid and ever since the lockdown I am without any means and source of livelihood. Managing basic responsibility of feeding family with bed ridden husband suffering from serious ailment and dependent children without money or means to money at this hour is not just a challenge but a serious and painful concern. I am thankful to SEEDS for reaching out to me in this tough time"*

**Radha- Ration kit receiver, Coimbatore**



**SEEDS IN ACTION**

We have about 10 staff members and 40 key volunteers working in the field and contributing towards the mission



A severe shortage of Personal Protective Equipment is posing safety challenges to many of the frontline workers, who by nature of their work are exposed to serious repercussions of the pandemic. SEEDS therefore is making sincere endeavours to reach out and collaborate towards a substantial contribution by way of distributing Personal Protective Equipment kits

**SEEDS Team presenting PPE Kits to Honorable Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi, Mr Manish Sisodia for distribution in Government Hospitals in Delhi. 2850 PPE kits have been delivered to Covid relief Govt. hospitals for Frontline workers who are steadily working day and night to save us from the pandemic, from catching the infection."**



SEEDS identified 280 deprived families in Varapuzha Panchayat, Kerala and distributed ration kits to them. The recipients of the ration kit are primarily daily wage workers, elderly couples, family led by disabled, or women and bedridden patients, as all of these are facing serious challenges in fetching even basic meals of the day.

**Stigma and an unfair stereotypical**

It is indeed a great challenge to reach out to the marginalised community in these times of crisis. The Commercial Sex Workers' (CSW) community is battling a parallel fight along with COVID-19. In the course of ration and hygiene kit distribution, SEEDS team met Leena (name changed to protect privacy). A tenant in Delhi's Krishan Vihar, Leena is a Commercial Sex Worker (CSW) who ekes out a meagre income out of her job. The lockdown has severely affected her livelihood and a large family to support has only toughened her struggle. Adding further to the sad situation, social stigma and societal perceptions are barring the society to come forward to help them, hence ostracizing them completely and leaving them to struggle harder. On receiving the kit from SEEDS, she signed off quoting,

*" Help from SEEDS at this hour by way of receiving Ration is nothing but a blessing, however we need income and a means of sustenance to bounce back".*

Like Leena, there are hundreds of families nearby who are in a middle of acute crisis and have no going back. They think that their future post-pandemic is hopeless. All they seek, now, is a genuine source of income.

**SEEDS needs your kind support for reaching out to 1 million persons in underprivileged communities across India**

SEEDS COVID-19 HELPLINE IS NOW AVAILABLE TO ADDRESS GENERAL PUBLIC QUERIES

**+91-9821746747**  
**9:00 AM - 7:00 PM**  
**ALL 7 DAYS**