

Maarga Relief Work During National Shutdown Due to Covid-19



Regd Office:745, Shastri Nagar, 7th main Rajendra Nagar, Koramangala 8th
Block, Bangalore-560 047

Registered Under the Registrar of Societies Act 1960. NO-813/1999-00
Exempted under IT Act with 12A & 80G Certificates

Intervention Report

Maarga is a society registered under registrar of society's act 1960 and duly exempted under the provisions of 12A and 80G of the Income Tax Act 1961 and also has the FCRA registration from the Ministry of Home Affairs. Maarga works for the empowerment of the marginalized communities living in urban slums. Maarga's focus is on promotion on the education of underprivileged children living in slums. As a community-based organization, Maarga is involved in mobilizing, educating and empowering slum communities for the last twenty years. The rights and entitlements of children, women, and youth are the priority area for Maarga. Maarga has also worked with issues like land and housing rights of slum dwellers not only in Bangalore but seven districts of Karnataka. Maarga is also a founder member of NAGARA VANCHITARA VEDIKE - A state-level forum of deprived communities /organizations working in urban spaces in the state.

Maarga intended to provide dry rations, medicine and protective aids to these daily wage earners who are living at the mercy of uncertainty without anyone coming to their support or rescue. Maarga with the support of civil society, organizations and individuals wants to provide basic dry ration/provision necessary till the national shut down come to a close.

A team of 25 committed volunteers worked to make sure that the dry ration and provision reach at the doorsteps of the community in Rajendra Nagar, Shastri Nagar, Ambedkar Nagar and Geetanjali slum from Koramangala slum cluster.

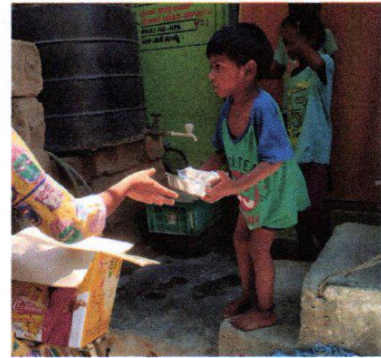
Initially, Maarga planned to provide rations and other provisions to 1000 families with a worth of Rs.1125 each that will last for another two weeks which will amount to a total of 15 lakhs. These 1125 families would be selected based on a few criteria of vulnerability like families living in a rented house, domestic workers, daily wage earners, families with disabled persons, etc.

Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiative (APPI) provided a grant of 12.25 lakhs as requested by Maarga for the purpose of stated above. Maarga procured dry rations from APMC market yard in Yeshwanthpur whole sale market for a total amount of Rs.11.16 Lakhs. And prepared seven hundred dry ration kits with 10kg rice, 2kg wheat flour, 2kg sugar, 2kg dhal , 2kg oil, 1 stayfree Sanitary Napkin, 2 bath soap and 2 washing Soap.



Earlier we have planned to distribute Dry rations for the 1000 selected families from slums - Shastri Nagar, Rajendra Nagar, Ambedkar Nagar, LR Nagar, Nellorepuram-HAL ward and Athma Jyoti Nagara in Mysore road , but after distributing 650 dry ration kits the demand for ration was so enormous and as we could not handle the pressure we distributed ration kits with half of the earlier kit so that we can provide rations to more number of deserved people that apart. We also mobilized 1050 dry ration kits from HasiruDala and 250 kits from Gubbachi learning center to complete the dry ration distribution. Maarga also distributed 450 kits to migrant workers from Orissa who are living in Bangalore- South, Bhomanahalli and Anekal divisions of Bangalore. The Orissa migrant workers who have not recieved dry ration kits are in huge number and their plight is worse.

Maarga as a priority distributed cooked food and dry rations to the migrant workers from North-East region. Because they are fair skinned with Mangolian features, the local public started accusing them as Chinese and they cause/spread the Epidemic of Coronavirus. Abusing them with derogatory comments, threats were common. Maarga staff and the volunteers stood in solidarity with the North- Eastern community



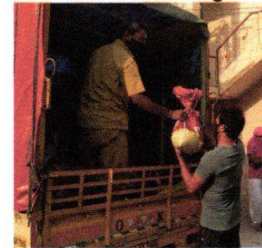
Maarga also shared 200 dry ration kits to Ramnagara where 120 were distributed to least bonded laborers and 80 kits shared with beneficiaries identified by ZillaParishaat.

Dear All,



The experience of distributing dry rations across Bangalore for the last two days was really a pathetic one. Myself Aadhavi, Thejas and Manjunatha, went around electronic city -south zone, Bangalore urban and what we saw and experienced was really heart breaking and disturbing. It was an absolute victim-hood and pain they are going through. They literally came like begging to give them rations to feed themselves at least for one two days...!! It's devastating to know the fact that the state and non-state agencies have not really acknowledged them in real. Felt ashamed of myself looking at the situation of the laborers and I could see hunger in

their eyes...!! In a place near Agra junction people came running behind our car looking at the ration kits for around 100 mts .when we stopped the car they pleaded us by folding hands to give them some ration kits.. For these many years I've only heard and seen migrant laborers but never encountered an experience like this but these two days was a life lesson altogether if we are able to acknowledge their issues in real and detail we will for sure achieve a milestone ...!! Honestly looking forward to work for them...will never forget what I saw these two days.. !! I also thank maarga for giving this opportunity to know these laborers and the pain they go through...!



Aadhavi. S, Relief Volunteer, Maarga, 15-04-2020.

Dry ration distributed from the grant given by APPI is 1350 kits.

Dry ration kits mobilized and distributed from other organizations is 2250 kits.

Totally, we have distributed dry ration kits to 3600 apart from 16750 cooked food packets during the relief period in the first phase till 20th April 2020 with the extension of the shutdown till May 3rd 2020, has made the situation further complex where more and more people are facing shortage of food/semi-starvation. Even the PDS ration card holders got only rice and wheat making the situation no better.

We thank Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiative(APPI) and other organization who enabled us to make this relief operation a successful process