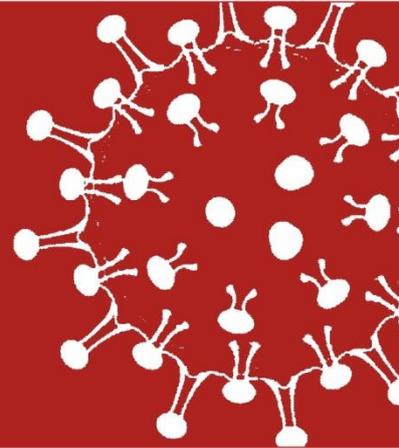


# CUTS' INITIATIVES AND SUPPORT TO VULNERABLE COMMUNITY DEALING WITH COVID-19



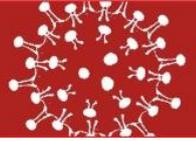
**S**ince the lockdown was announced on March 24, 2020, CUTS Centre for Human Development is contributing to fight against COVID-19. The centre and its networkers are disseminating information, awareness along with the distribution of relief materials mainly in Chittorgarh, Bhilwara, Banswara and Pratapgarh districts of Rajasthan. As of now, we have made several efforts in challenging time to support the vulnerable community.

## **Differently Abled Women on a Mask Mission**

Due to face masks speedily vanishing from the market, Persons with Disabilities' Self-help Group (SHG), particularly, women are making masks with full enthusiasm and motivation to fill up the scarcity in the market. These masks are made of 100 percent cotton cloth and can be reused after home sterilisation.

The differently-abled made 20,000 masks and supplied those to government departments, NGOs, and local donors in Chittorgarh. Each member of SHG is now being able to earn at least Rs 400 per day by devoting six to seven hours and that gives them a sense of pride. It is an opportunity for them to contribute to the pandemic war. This initiative will meet the shortage of masks and also be helpful in the prevention of the pandemic in the community.

CUTS also distributed face masks to the vulnerable community, village councils, police and corona warriors for free of cost to meet the demand for masks and the poor people still do not use them due to dearth of supply as well as they cannot afford it.



District Supply Officer, Village Councils, Social Justice Department appreciated the efforts made by the organisation.

Overall 25,000 face masks were distributed by the project beneficiaries, volunteers, networkers, and consumer activists in Chittorgarh, Bhilwara, Banswara and Pratapgarh districts.

### **Immediate relief to Disabled People and General Community**

CUTS Disabled People Organisation contacted approximately 400 persons with disabilities and provided immediate relief regarding the problem of supplying ration, release of pension, ensuring government entitlements to those in need.

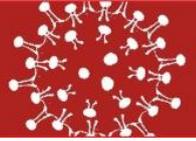
We are disseminating information about health literacy on COVID-19 and provided emotional support and guidance as required in this challenging time.

In consultation with doctor Ayurvedic kadha (syrup) was prepared to increase immunity power and it was distributed along with face masks to approximately 200 persons with following health instructions by government. 38 consumers' problems/complaints were resolved regarding water, electricity, and banking with their officials concerned.

### **Support by Volunteers and Networkers**

Shyam is associated with CUTS' Consumer Assistance Cell and has his tailoring shop. He made 1,900 face masks and distributed food materials to the poor with support from *panchayat* and local donors. He also visited the nearby areas abiding by all safety norms and provided information about the prevention of coronavirus and resolved people's matters with the *panchayat*, health, and electricity departments.

Bhagwan Lal Sharma, volunteer in Rashmi provided information about the bad effects of tobacco, bidi, cigarette, alcohol and asked people not to take intoxicants during or after pandemic time, which create problems in the family. He informed about direct benefit transfer (DBT) of financial relief announced by the government to poor eligible families and resolved some financial issues of poor with banks.



Radhey Shyam Pareshar, President, Consumer Information and Counselling Committee in Bhopal Sagar, provides regular tea, refreshment, and fruits to police, para-medical and needy people to provide encouragement and motivation to fight against the pandemic. He had also felicitated all corona warriors who are engaged in essential services.

Abdul Latif Mansuri is Networker in Badi Sadri, who was involved in minority women leadership development programme. He made masks with support from other women and distributed to 1,200 poor community creating awareness in prevention from COVID-19.

Around 10 active members of Consumer Protection Groups (CPG) in Eral and Netawalgarh *Gram Panchayat* working in COVID-19 pandemic time, distributed 2,000 face masks, 100 food packets like flour, spices, salt, vegetables, and soap to poor families and sprayed sanitisers in both villages by *gram panchayats*.

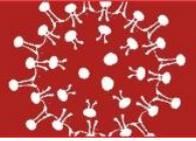
The CPGs provided awareness in their villages about coronavirus prevention, such as hand washing, social distancing, avoid to touch face, eyes, nose, and stay at home to save lives. They assisted Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) and Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANM) for doing community health check-ups and motivated some people to visit the sub-health centre as they had complaints of cold, fever, and cough. They asked villagers not to perform any social activity, last ritual food, marriage, and celebrate the festival at the large community level.

### **Disseminating Information to Farmers**

We made a WhatsApp group of farmers and continued providing information to farmers whenever they had some queries about purchasing of seed, fertiliser, cattle feed, green fodder, vegetable seed, cottonseed, and ploughing field.

We connected them with agriculture and allied professionals where the officials concerned resolved their problem, interacted with traders to avail fair crop price. Some farmers' registration was done to ploughing their field free of cost under the tractor company scheme.

Bansi Lal Dhakad, a progressive farmer has exchanged various initiatives in the promotion of organic farming, asked people to switch from chemical farming to organic



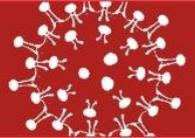
farming this information was broadcast by All India Radio on Earth Day. Much relevant information on organic farming and prevention of coronavirus was shared on the WhatsApp group of Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, and Pratapgarh districts.

### **Emergency Relief Services to Children in Bhilwara and Banswara**

We provided emergency relief services to 45 children and reach out to every child in need of care and protection by responding to the emergency calls and advocacy service for children in the department concerned.

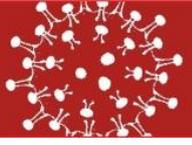
Two got medical help, two rescued from abuse and 41 children's families were provided soap, sanitisers, and reusable masks, and 19 labour families were provided ration kits such as 5 kgs wheat flour, 1 kg lentil, 1 litre cooking oil and 1 kg salt. The team disseminated information among the community to adopt safety measures like use of mask, social distancing, hand washing, staying home, and call to helpline numbers 1098 if any child was in distress during COVID-19 and shared District Supply Officer helpline number for need and assistance.

In Banswara, 1056 made phone calls to panchayat representatives, village development officers, school teachers, ANMs, AWWs to provide all necessary relief and food items to migrant families and basic information about coronavirus prevention and asked PRIs members to make accessible all necessary relief and food items to vulnerable families. The staff prepared the list and shared with PRIs where they distributed food items to needy families. About 30 families got food materials with support from *panchayats* and the public distribution system (PDS).



## Glimpses of Initiatives





# Differently abled women on mask mission

Srikanta.Tripathy @timesgroup.com

Jaipur: Masks are in short supply but the crisis is acute once you move away from big cities. There is an urgency to produce more at a rapid clip and the clock is ticking for 26-year-old Sweta Garu in Dagma Kheda village of Chittorgarh.



Sweta Garu and Salma Bano are on a mission to sew 8,000 masks

me of the requirements. I feel happy to be part of the mission to keep people safe from the virus," said Bano over phone.

Before the government order came for masks, the group was engaged in making carry bags, doormats and other household materials using discarded clothes. They would sell them in fairs and bazaars. For training, getting sewing machines and finding market access, CUTS and some companies.

There is a struggle to meet the demand for masks and the poor and marginalized people still don't use them in the absence of supply as well as because they cannot afford it, says said district supply officer Beezal Surana.

"We ask for donation in the form of clothes, which are then given to the members of the SHG. In the span of 7 days, we have already received about 2,000 masks for distribution among the needy people. We will need as many as masks they make," said Surana.

## #LOCKDOWN HEROES

"I have been on the sewing machine non-stop, around eight hours a day although I have to take small breaks because of the problem in one of my legs. The government needs masks urgently we have a target and doing leisurely is the last thing on the mind," said Sweta, undeterred by her locomotor disability.

Like Garu, all the eight members of her self help group who have some form of the orthopedic impairment or the other, are on a mission to complete the first order of 8,000 masks for the district administration.

In normal times, they would work together under one roof, but to follow social distancing norms they are now working from their homes.

For 45-year-old Salma Bano from Bassi village, making masks fills in a sense of pride. It's a rare opportunity for her to contribute to the war on the pandemic. That she is able to make about Rs 400-500 a day just adds to her enthusiasm and motivation.

"We are hearing the mahamari (pandemic) has put lives of lakhs of people at risk globally. The virus is increasing in India too. Masks can help people save themselves from getting infected. In our area, people don't have as many masks as required and government wants us to meet so



From doctors, nurses, bankers to milkmen and security guards, there are many frontline warriors who are battling it out daily to ensure we are safe and taken care of during the lockdown. We salute all these real, unsung heroes

If you know of lockdown heroes whose stories you would like to share please log on to [www.lockdownheroes.com](http://www.lockdownheroes.com). We will seek to get in touch and feature select stories in The Times of India newspaper

# रावला चौक में लोगों को पिलाया आयुर्वेदिक काढ़ा

भास्कर संवाददाता | चित्तौड़गढ़

कट्स मानव विकास केंद्र की ओर से रावला चौक सेंती शिव मंदिर के बाहर आयुर्वेदिक काढ़ा पिलाकर मास्क भी वितरण किए। कट्स के सहायक केंद्र समन्वयक मदन गिरी ने बताया कि उदयपुर के आयुर्वेदिक डॉ. जियालाल के निर्देशन में तैयार काढ़े की कड़वाहट को कम करने के लिए उसमें शहद मिलाया। समन्वयक गौहर महमूद, नर्बदा शंकर चौबीसा, सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता कमलेश चतुर्वेदी, बाबूलाल शर्मा ने सहयोग दिया।

# 12 दिव्यांग बना रहे हैं मास्क अब तक 12 हजार बना चुके

भास्कर संवाददाता | चित्तौड़गढ़

कोरोना महामारी को हराने के लिए दिव्यांगजन भी पीछे नहीं हैं। 12 दिव्यांग घरो में मास्क तैयार करने में जुटे हैं। प्रेम बैरवा बस्ती, मांगी नायक चामटी खेड़ा, आश वैरवा चतरपुरा, रेखा मेघवाल देवरी, आश्रम मेघवाल साकरिया, निर्मला मेघवाल साकरिया, सलमा बानो बस्ती, हुसेना बानो कुंभानगर, श्वेता धारु उपलखेड़ा, कैलाश कुमावत रानीखेड़ा, मीरुलाल कौर कल्याणपुरा, मंदेश बाटकिया सावा ने मास्क बनाने का अभियान शुरू किया।



## डेयरी चेयरमैन ने काढ़ा व मास्क वितरित किए

गंगार। डेयरी चेयरमैन बद्रीलाल जाट ने सुदरी बस स्टैंड स्थित सरस दुग्ध संग्रहण केंद्र पर किसानों को आयुर्वेदिक काढ़ा पिलाया (मास्क वितरित भी किए। उन्होंने किसानों से सोशल डिस्टेंस बनाए रखने की अपील की। भाभाशाह डेयरी संचालक शंभू लाल जाट ने किसानों को आयुर्वेदिक काढ़ा पिलाया। सरस लाटली योजना के तहत किसानों को चेक दिए। इस दौरान पूर्व प्रधान रतनलाल जाट, कैलाश जाट, नारायण जाट, शंभू सिंह करंडिया, डेयरी संपर्क रतनलाल जाट, कैलाश जाट, नारायण जाट, एडवोकेट कन्हैया लाल वैष्णव, देऊ बाई, गीत देवी, शंकर गिरी मौजूद थे।

चित्तौड़ कपड़ा बाजार एसोसिएशन निशुल्क दे रहा है। किरण टेलर सेंती, डीएस टेलर चित्तौड़गढ़, रेखा सेन आछेड़ा, बसंती सुधार सेंती, शकुंतला जैन रानीखेड़ा का सहयोग मिल रहा है।

कट्स के समन्वयक गौहर महमूद ने बताया कि कट्स मानव विकास केंद्र की ओर से साइटसेवर्स के सहयोग से संचालित सामाजिक समावेशन कार्यक्रम के तहत गठित समूहों से जुड़े 12 दिव्यांगजन घरों में मास्क बना रहे हैं। अब तक 12 हजार मास्क तैयार किए। 6 हजार मास्क जिला रसद अधिकारी बीजल सुराणा के निर्देश पर तैयार किए। डीएसओ सुराणा ने बताया कि मास्क बनाने के लिए सूती कपड़े

# आजीविका पर लगा 'ताला', पर सेवा का जज्बा कायम

पत्रिका कट्स के साथी दुकानें बंद होने निशुल्क मास्क में जुट गए



## कम नहीं हुआ सेवा का जज्बा

सोनियाना गांव में रहने वाले दजी का काम करने वाले रहमान खां लॉक डाउन हुआ तो यह कपड़े सिलने के काम आने वाली अपनी मशीन आदि सामान घर पर ले आए। उन्होंने राजस्थान पत्रिका में समाचार पढ़ा कि दर्जी का काम करने वाले कुछ लोग मास्क बनाकर जरूरतमंदों को निशुल्क वितरित कर रहे हैं, उन्हें प्रेरणा मिली तब घर से निकल कर गांव के जरूरतमंद लोगों के लिए मास्क बनाएंगे और निशुल्क वितरित करेंगे। रहमान ने मास्क बनाने के लिए कपड़ा खरीदा और घर में ही मास्क बनाने शुरू कर दिए। अब तक गांव के करीब तीन सौ लोगों को वे निशुल्क मास्क उपलब्ध करा चुके हैं। लॉक डाउन में रहमान को घर का गुजारा चलाने में समस्या तो आ रही, लेकिन कहते हैं कि लॉक डाउन का पालन तो करना ही पड़ेगा।

लॉकडाउन अवधि में व्यवसाय भी बंद है इसलिए मैं कई टेलर स्वयं संचालित होकर काम कर रहा हूँ। इस अवधि में कई निशुल्क मास्क सेवा में लगे हैं।

कुंभानगर कच्ची बस्ती की रहने वाली दिव्यांग हुसेना बानु उम्र 45 वर्ष बताती हैं कि मैं कट्स द्वारा संचालित सिलाई प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र से जुड़कर सलवार सूट, कपड़े के बैग बनाने का कार्य करती हूँ। प्रतिदिन 300 रुपये का काम कर लेती हूँ परन्तु जबसे लॉकडाउन लगा तब से

मैं का काम रुक गया। कोरोना महामारी को हराने के उद्देश्य से सूती कपड़े के मास्क तैयार करने में लगी हूँ निशुल्क वितरण के लिए दिए जा रहे हैं। मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि हम सभी मिलकर कोरोना महामारी को हराने में सफल होंगे।

हराएंगे कोरोना को हम सब मिलकर

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खुद के शर्ट के कपड़े से बना दिए मास्क

कोमत कम होनी चाहिए थी। इस पर स्वयं ही मास्क बनाने की ठान ली। सूती कपड़े के मास्क बनाने का काम शुरू कर दिए। अपने स्वयं के लिए शर्ट सिलने के लिए जो कपड़ा लाकर रखा था उसी के मास्क बनाकर रोज कामाने एवं खाने वाले लोगों को मुफ्त में बांट दिए। अभी वे जैसे-तैसे कपड़े की व्यवस्था कर मास्क तैयार कर रहे हैं। सीताराम बताते हैं कि रोजगार पूरी तरह से बंद है लेकिन फिर भी जैसे-तैसे काम चला रहे हैं।

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