Since 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
COVID-19

Differently abled women on mask mission

राजवला चौक में लोगों को पिलाया आयुर्विदिक काढा
भारकर रंगडादारा| विहिलोहार

कर्म साँपन विकास केंद्र की आयुर्विदिक काढा से राजवला चौक सेंटी शिव मंदिर के बाहर आयुर्विदिक काढा चिठ्ठिक मानक भी चिठ्ठिया दिए। काढे के सहायक केंद्र समाजवादिक नैना गंगा ने रखा कि दुर्भाग्य के आयुर्विदिक डॉगों जियालाल के निर्देशण में तैयार काढे को किंद्रण करने के लिए उसके रूप में शादी मिलाया।

समाजवादिक गौरी महामुहूर्त, नरेंद्र शर्मा चौबैवाल, समाजवादिक कार्यकर्ता कमलेश पाँवादी, बाबुगांव राम ने सहायता दिया।

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

आजीविका पर लग ताला, पर सेवा का जज्बा कायम

सन्ता रुद्र ताड़ियिने काव्य व मास्क वितरित किए जाएगी

सन्ता रुद्र ताड़ियिने काव्य व मास्क वितरित किए जाएगी

कम नहीं हुआ सेवा का जज्बा

हम दब दिखाय कार्यकर्ता को, सेवा का हमकर, खर दिखाय।