



# INDIAN PROVINCE RESPONSE DURING COVID-19

21 MAY 2020

The Provincial Administration made available financial aid from the Province Solidarity Fund for communities to respond to the crisis caused by the pandemic.

## Maharashtra

### Haregaon

Community provided rations to 30 families.

In addition St. Teresa's School contributed 6 kgs rice to each family.

### Ashankur, Bhokar

The Bhokar community along with 4 staff of Ashankur stitched 2000 masks.

Sr. Prisca Tirkey prepared an ayurvedic sanitizer and also conducted a training for 5 self help groups of women. There was a distribution of masks to needy persons. Also 100 masks were distributed to the health workers at St. Luke's hospital.

### Malwan

Malwan community reached out to 23 families.

### Pune

Prerana community extended help to 4 families.

## Uttarakhand

In Rishikesh Sr. Tureeya distributed rations to 24 migrant workers including 6 families from states of Jharkhand and Bihar, who were left stranded due to the extended lockdown with no work and no money.

## Jharkhand

### Torpa Rural Development Society for Women

The NGO reached out to 80 villages of Torpa and Rania: conducting awareness programs in mundari and sadri (local languages), explaining about the myths and facts of Covid-19 and instructing the tribal community to strictly follow the rules and regulations of the government. The staff and volunteers helped to identify the elderly, the widows, the single woman run households and the differently abled in 12 panchayats in order to distribute 100 rations, 250 masks, 100 sanitizers, 100 handwash liquids and 800 soaps. The staff also identified 8 villages where the community lives in the hills and earns their living from the sale of forest produce or from catching fish from the local ponds. But with no local markets due to an extended lockdown period and no source of income this tribal community had very little to eat.

## Maharashtra

### Mumbai City

#### Kristpremaly

Community provided rations to 20 needy families. The needy families were identified by a team from the local parish and the distribution of the food packets was done via the parish team working from St. Elizabeth's Hospital.

#### Santa Cruz

Community gave ration to 15 families.

#### Malwani

All relief work was routed through the local parish. 500 families were supported. The community reached out to 2 needy families who were not listed in the above category. Sr. Manisha Gonsalves formed a small local team for a telephonic counselling called "Hope Line" available during the week.

#### Sophia College and

#### Sophia Polytechnic

jointly took up the responsibility of providing food to the watchmen who were given temporary accommodation on Sophia Campus during the lockdown period.

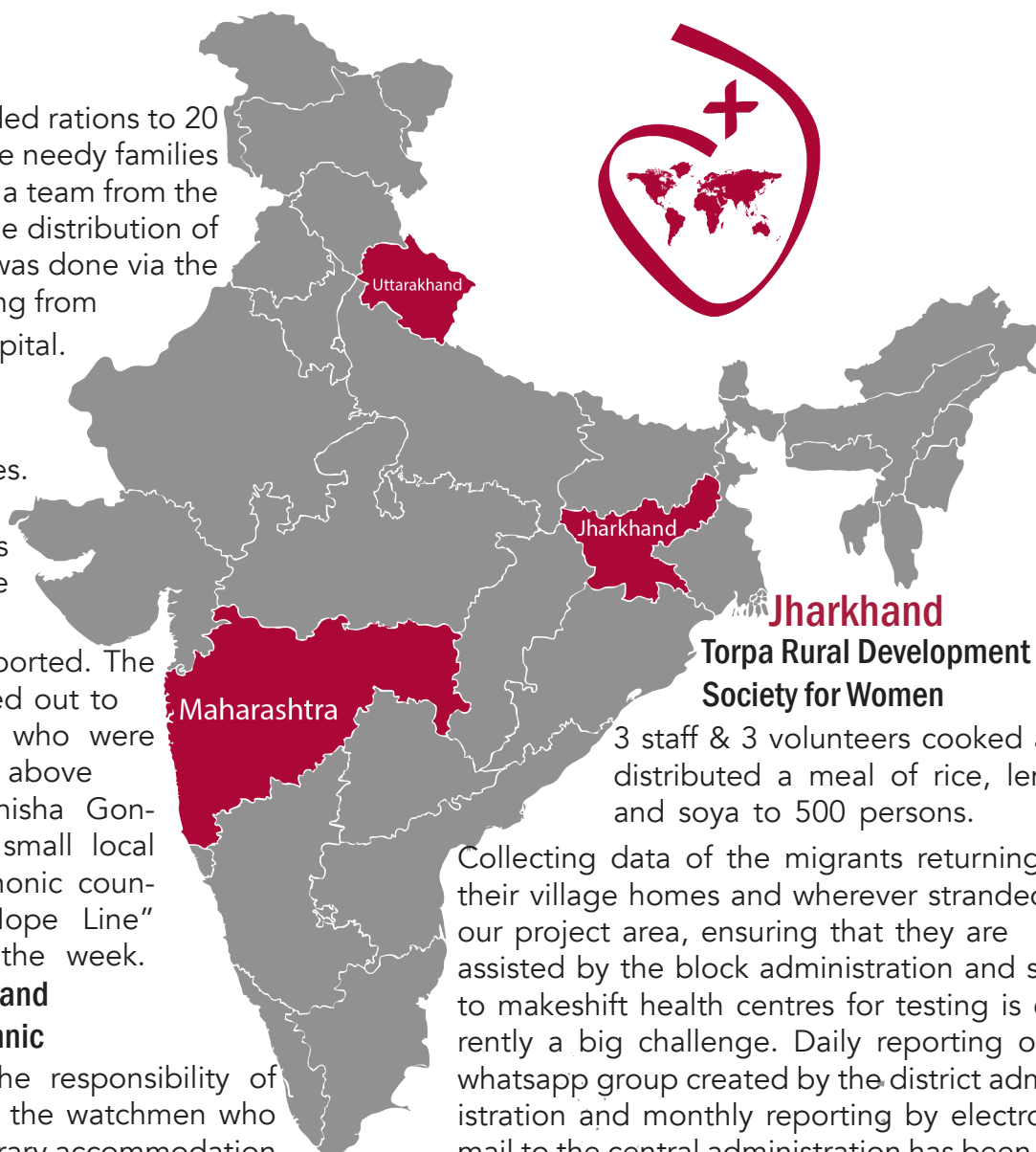
From the Province Solidarity Fund financial aid was given to Holy Family Hospital towards their expenses for the free quarantine facility which was set up by the hospital.

### The Contents of a Ration Kit/ Food Packet



Each food packet of ration contained the following items:

- rice
- lentils
- cooking oil
- beaten rice
- tea
- salt
- sugar
- turmeric powder
- chilli powder
- bathing soaps
- detergent soap



#### Jharkhand Torpa Rural Development Society for Women

3 staff & 3 volunteers cooked and distributed a meal of rice, lentils and soya to 500 persons.

Collecting data of the migrants returning to their village homes and wherever stranded in our project area, ensuring that they are assisted by the block administration and sent to makeshift health centres for testing is currently a big challenge. Daily reporting on a whatsapp group created by the district administration and monthly reporting by electronic mail to the central administration has been our accountability to the government during the lockdown period.



## Prayer and Reflection During The Pandemic

Special prayers were held to pray for doctors, nurses, health workers, police personnel, the poor and vulnerable, the migrants and all those affected by the pandemic. Almost as soon as the lockdown was declared with effect from 25th March 2020, the Sophia College rscj workgroup decided to organise a special prayer in the Main Chapel of Sophia Campus, with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on weekdays. The Malwani community in their daily prayer together before the Blessed Sacrament remembered an rscj community from provinces all over the world. The Haregaon community decided on an adoration twice a week for one hour. The Pragnalaya community recited the daily rosary together and the diocesan prayer for relief against the corona virus. They also prayed the special 9 day novena to St. Corona. From mid-April onwards, the Prerana community held a special adoration for one hour daily from 11:00 am to 12 noon. The Torpa community decided to have a special adoration after lockdown 2.0, with the daily exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 pm.

On 14th May 2020 some rscjs participated in a day of prayer, fasting and a special online inter-faith prayer, conducted by the Archdiocese of Bombay.



Stitching of Masks at Bhokar, Maharashtra

Sr. Prisca Tirkey - Bhokar, Maharashtra



Sr. Agnes Guria - Torpa, Jharkhand



Awareness Banner for COVID-19