

# REPORT OF COVID-19 SUPPORT AND RELIEF ACTIVITIES

By Gabriel Project Charitable Trust & Sundara Charitable Trust, Palghar

March - May 2020





# Report of COVID-19 support and relief activities

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Program Title:	CoVER (Corona Virus Emergency Response)		
Program Title:	FED (Food Emergency Distribution)		
Report Start Date:	30.03.2020		
Current Report Date:	31.05.2020		
Geographic locations:	Palghar District and Thane Slums.		
Target Group 1:	1. Government Hospitals (Including COVID-19) and few		
	PHC's Palghar District		
Target Group 2:	2. Vulnerable backward communities of Palghar Rural		
	Taluka areas of Devkhop (Palghar), Ashte-Raipur		
	(Dahanu) and Jogalwadi, Saturli and Ghosali in		
	(Mokhada)		
	Migrant labour in Kalwa slums.		
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#### Overview

**Gabriel Project Charitable Trust:** Gabriel Project Charitable Trust works for vulnerable children, women and communities in the slums and tribal villages of India – focused mainly in the north western region of Maharashtra in Palghar District since the last 3 years. The primary activities conducted to achieve our vision are, Education, Nutrition, Health care and Community development through micro enterprises. Gabriel project is a dynamic and proactive organisation that is sensitive to the need of the moment.

Currently, the COVID-19 crisis is impacting most of the vulnerable communities who we normally work with in a manner that is emotionally overwhelming and one that calls for quick and immediate responses, especially to families who have reached a near starvation point.

People need information in their vernacular language about the Corona virus and how to combat it or keep one safe from it. Many wanted access to hygiene products like soap, that they could not afford due to loss of incomes. We were able to develop a



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matching response to this under a specially designed awareness campaign involving banners, posters and pamphlets along with free distribution of soap.

The GPCT India team rose to the challenge of this transition and despite the workfrom-home orders were able to smoothly transform our selves to a cohesive team to deliver on all fronts of our relief work.

Lastly, doctors, nurses and support staff at the COVID-19 hospitals are making a courageous and valiant effort at the frontline of fighting this problem. Wherever there is a request made to us, we are making the effort to provide some support and help in the form of food, or supplies. We truly acknowledge their hard work and this the least we can do to show our support to our heroes.

**Sundara Charitable Trust:** Sundara Charitable Trust works exclusively in the space of free bar soap distribution and hygiene education for slum and tribal school children. In this time of COVID-19 we are adapting and actively conducting an awareness campaign and donating soap bars to Government hospitals, underprivileged communities from tribal villages and slum areas in partnership with Gabriel Project Charitable Trust and have constructed wash stations at 2 district hospitals in Dahanu.

# Introduction to the activities

Gabriel Project and Sundar India have together decided to assist and support the Government and vulnerable communities with various relief works under two programs namely;

- 1. CoVER (Corona Virus Emergency Response and
- 2. FED Food Emergency Distribution

# CoVER- Corona Virus Emergency Response

The main activities under this program are;

- 1. Wash stations at Government Hospitals.
- 2. Soap distribution.
- 3. Masks distribution.
- 4. Awareness through Flex banners, Posters, Pamphlets.
- 5. Hand Sanitizers for Doctors at Hospitals.





#### Wash stations at Government Hospitals.

Some government hospitals in the rural districts like Palghar have come forward with the idea of wash stations at the entrance of the hospitals. Based on a written request from the Doctor-in-Charge of the District Hospital in Dahanu we responded to the need for providing a wash station (Dahanu is the sub district where Gabriel Project conducts its educational, nutrition and healthcare programs in Ashte-Raipur Villages) We have also built wash stations at the Saiwan Primary Healthcare, Palghar and also one at the Mokhada Rural Hospital. Both these stations are built at the entrance of the hospital and is 4 taps set up.



Wash station built at the Mokhada Rural Hospital



Wash Station built at the Saiwan Primary Health Center-Dahanu







Wash Station built at the Dahanu District Hospital

By providing the hospitals with the much-needed wash stations we will make sure that all the patients enter the hospital after washing their hands with soap for 20 seconds. Handwashing with soap for 20 or more seconds is a powerful and vital method to 'flatten the curve" and keep communities safe from person-to-person transmission especially within the close environment of a hospital.

> The details of Wash station in each location is as in the below table:

Sr. No	Location	Description	Work Status
1.	Dahanu Sub District Hospital	7 - tap set up with covering sunshade.	Completed
2.	Saiwan Primary Healthcare Center	4 – tap set up	Completed
3.	Mokhada Rural Hospital	4 – tap set up	Completed

# **Projected Targets**

Our target it to build one more wash station at the Jawahar Rural hospital. An estimated budget for this wash station would be about 10000 Indian Rupees.

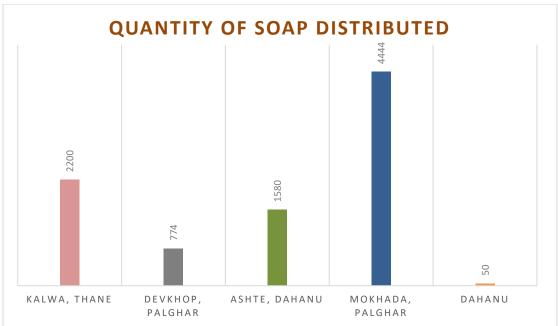
# Soap distribution.

Our close partner SUNDAR India has been working in the hygiene and soap domain and has been a great support to provide soap bars to our vulnerable communities. At the outset Sundar India distributed its internal stockpile of over 3500 soap bars and later Gabriel Project stepped into purchase from the open market a further stock of 1500 bars of soap. We also received soap donations from Godrej Consumer Products Ltd. of about 4000 soap bars. A second donation of 1500 kilograms of cut soap bars and 200 kilograms of wrapper soap bars was received from Godrej. Our SUNDAR India team has also produced 957 organic bar soap and these will be distributed in hospitals.





The poor villagers have no daily incomes now and so are finding it hard to put food on the table. Buying expensive bar soap is near impossible and so Gabriel Project worked to provide this much needed soap to these vulnerable communities in the Bhaskar Nagar slums in Kalwa near Mumbai, Ashte- Raipur, Sathurli, Jogalwadi, Ghosali, Shivlee, Borsheti, Ghodichapada and Khadamwadi villages in the Mokhada taluka. People are so thankful to receive this much needed soap to practice the much needed 20second protocol of handwashing that makes them feel safe from the dreaded virus.



#### A total of 9048 soap bars were distributed

\*\*We have received 300 kilograms of cut soap from Godrej soap manufacturers. These bar soaps have been distributed among the underprivileged families in Mokhada villages. The branded soap of 100 kilograms that was received from Godrej Soaps will be distributed among the District hospitals in Palghar, Primary healthcare centres in Mokhada and Jawahar.



Soap Distribution in Saturli village, Mokhada







Soap Distribution in the slum area, Kalwa



Soap Distribution at Hathipada, Mokhada



Soap Distribution in Jogalwadi village, Mokhada





Our target on soap distribution is 20,000\* bar soaps by the end of June 2020 or as required for further distribution as India is yet to reach its peak of COVID-19 cases which is estimated to occur early June 2020. Distribution will be within the 2 broad beneficiary areas. Hospitals or Government Primary Health centres and vulnerable communities in villages or slum areas. As it is monsoon time, we have packed the cut bar soap received from Godrej in bags so that the soap doesn't spoil.

(\* we have received a donation of over 18000 bars of soap from Godrej Consumer Products, Mumbai)



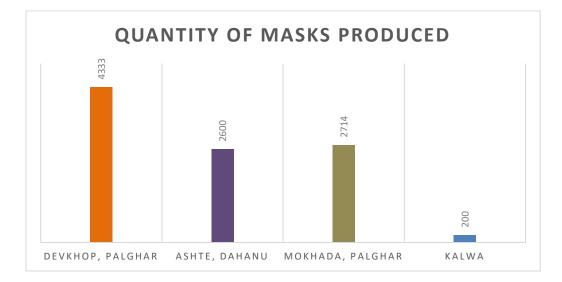
Soap Distribution at Ghosali, Mokhada



Cut soap packed- 6 pieces in one pack

# **Cloth Masks distribution.**

'Tribal Threads' is an ongoing sewing initiative in Gabriel Project that has been turning out innovative products like sari bags, cutlery pouches, challah covers, totes, Kurti's and other assorted products. We quickly adapted to the need of the hour and our teams has **already produced about 9247 masks** for free-of-cost distribution to our communities.





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Tribal Threads staff started with using the leftover cloth material from our internal stock and other cut pieces to make the masks. Additionally, a new stock of over 1100 metres was purchased and distributed for production in our project areas of Palghar, Dahanu & Mokhada. This is also giving livelihood to over 15 women who are earning a per piece cost of sewing the masks while we have provided many the sewing machines, cloth, elastic and even the thread.

# **Projected Targets**

However, the demand is great, and we propose to go up to the production target of 15000 cloth masks. Further, we would like to try and also sell another batch of 1000 @ an affordable cost of Rs. 10/- per mask to other agencies, or malls or supermarkets to cover our costs.

Masks for communities and hospitals will be given free of cost. We think that our friends and supporters can sponsor these handmade cloth masks in batches of 1000 for just Rs 12,000 a batch. In that way if we could get 10 sponsors for these batches, we can cover the cost and have leftover to pay the women team. We have distributed a total 1023 masks to date to the District Health Officer's Office at Palghar, hospitals and to villagers from the local communities in our project areas. We will also be distributing around 5000 masks to the villagers in Mokhada during an awareness campaign that will be conducted there during the month of June 2020.



Masks packed for sale







Tribal Threads staff stitching face mask while at home





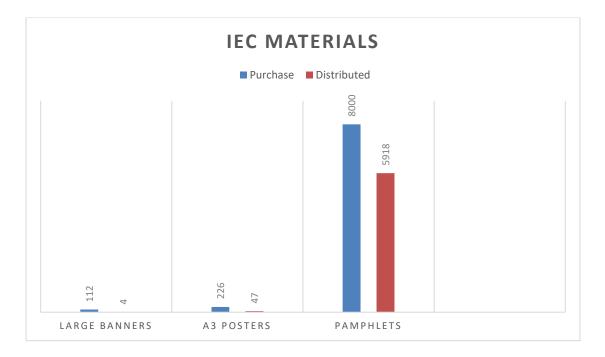
Mask Distribution in Ashte village, Dahanu





# Flex banners, Posters, Pamphlets.

Gabriel Project believes that giving out the correct and appropriate information about the virus is important and doing it in the local languages is even more effective and meaningful. We printed over 112 large banners of 3 feet x 4 feet in flex type and over 700 card paper posters of A3 sizes in the local languages and then over 8000 pamphlets in the national language Hindi and the state language Marathi. These banners and posters will be put up during the CoVID -19 awareness campaign that will be conducted in Mokhada and Ashte villages.







We are looking to reprint a further of 4000 pamphlets for further distribution as the Central Government of India has stressed the need for this and has requested NGOs such as ours to do more. (*See attached doc*)





3feet \* 4feet flex banner stating the do's and don'ts





Covid-19 Banner

Hand Sanitizers for Doctors at Hospitals.

Western countries like the USA and many others are facing huge shortages of medical supplies from PPE's to simple things like surgical masks. The situation in India is also not so different and many hospitals are running short of medical supplies from PPE's, surgical masks and things like surgical hand sanitisers.

Gabriel Project has close access to the local manufacturer in Palghar East, of surgical hand sanitizers for doctors and is able to procure this at one-third of the market shelf





price. We would like to see that our doctors, nurses and vulnerable patients are protected by this sanitizer through the supply of this by Gabriel Project. We have donated 31 litres of hand sanitizers to the hospitals that we are supporting and assisting in this fight against the COVID-19.

- 1. Dahanu sub district COVID-19 Hospital
- 2. Mokhada Primary Health Center
- 3. Talasari Vedanta COVID-19 Hospital
- 4. Saiwan PHC
- 5. Jawahar Primary Health Centers
- 6. Jawahar Rural Hospital

# **Projected Targets**

Subject to funding support we can do another round of distribution of hand sanitizers to the above centres.



Hand Sanitizers to be donated







Hand Sanitizer and posters distributed at Saiwan Primary Healthcare center, Dahanu



Hand Sanitizer and Bar Soap distributed to the local at Palghar



Hand Sanitizer and Bar Soap distributed at Jawahar Rural Hospital

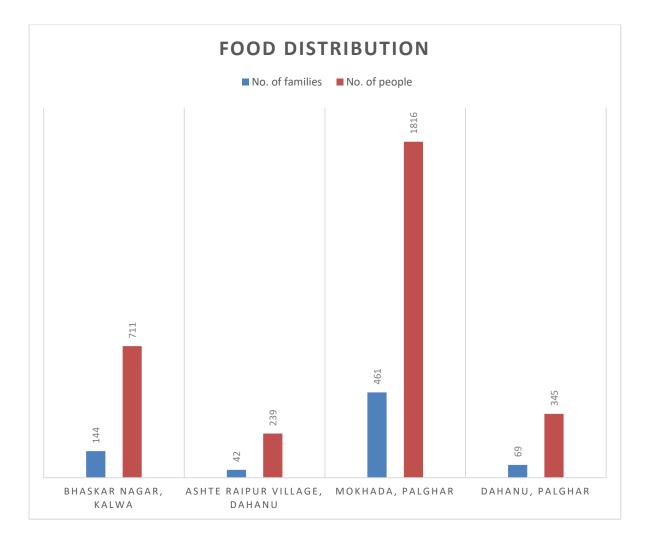




# FED – Food Emergency Distribution

The main activity of this program is to provide basic food to the underprivileged group from tribal villages and slum areas. Gabriel Project has identified each such families from areas in Raipur Village – Dahanu, Mokhada – Palghar and from the slum area at the Bhaskar Nagar area, Kalwa.

# We have distributed food kits to 716 families to date. The details of the food distributed in each location is as mentioned below:









Food Kits Distributed in Vagharpada, Mokhada



Food kits Distributed in Kalwa, Thane



Food Kits Distributed in Shivali village, Mokhada



Food Kits Distributed in Jogalwadi, Mokhada







Food kits distributed in Saturli village-Mokhada



Food distributed in Bhaskar Nagar - Kalwa



Food kits distributed in Ashte, Dahanu







Food kits Distributed in Ashte village, Dahanu



Our Goal is to provide a further rounds of food distribution to severely impacted families in Mokhada in June 2020. This can be achieved based on the amount of funding that we are able to receive. We are also other NGO's to partner with them and provide food kits to the families who are in need.

We are also providing meals to the staff of Dahanu District Hospital during this time of COVID -19. Below is the data of meals provided to the hospital to date:

Lunches	Dinners	Total Spent (INR)
1239	1046	114,250/-

The cost of each meal that we pay to the hospital canteen is INR. 50/-. A total 2285 cooked meals were provided to the hospital staff and our goal is to continue providing this till the end of 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020.







Cooked meals providing to the Dahanu District Hospital Doctors, Nurses

GPCT would like to continue to provide the Dahanu hospital till end of June 15<sup>th</sup> 2020 and also any other COVID -19 Government hospitals at Talasari and Boisar if required on a limited basis. We can also provide ration support to any village if requested by the local government authority or nodal officer appointed for Palghar.

# **Borewell and Community Farming**

After a meeting with the villagers in Mokhada and understanding their need for a good water supply source and also the need for supplementing their diet with fresh vegetables, GPCT is exploring the possibility of a new project. This project will entail the digging of a borewell that can bring 2 advantages.

- 1. Access to water for a community vegetable farm.
- 2. Access to clean drinking water with the addition of a clean drinking water water program. (similar to our ongoing Jal Jeevan Hain program at Kalwa)

The process for moving towards this will entail meetings with the local village government (Gram Panchayat) getting a resolution passed to provide land for the community vegetable farm, commitment of the local villagers to provide their labour free of cost, and a distribution plan of vegetables and possible sales plan for surplus.

We will also engage a technical firm to make the correct assessment for the bore well and the subsequent rainwater harvesting system to recharge the underground aquifers and storage to make it a self-sustaining water system. We can also obtain





donation of a water filtration plant from a corporate for the clean drinking water program.

Subsequently, we will also need a farming expert to support with all the latest ideas on what vegetables to grow and how to plan the farm activity to be an all year-round production unit. We are excited to give birth to this unique program as from every adversity arises a solution like a phoenix rising out from the ashes of pain and distress. The whole Gabriel Project India team are excited to be a part of this new venture, but we have to proceed with caution and get all sections of the villagers committed to the project while all local permission and compliances should be adhered to in full.



We the Gabriel Project India team and the Sundar India team are deeply motivated and engaged despite our disadvantage of working from home to do this work in the times of COVID-19. Our teams have shown great spirit of coordination and cooperation to achieve the work we do.

We are grateful to our funders, donors like Godrej Consumer Products, (Godrej Soaps) and other supporters for their unstinting support, encouragement, and financial help to let us do what we do in these difficult and challenging times.

Gabriel Project is extremely thankful to the Collector of Palghar Shri. Kailash Shinde and Police Department of Palghar in providing us the permissions for travel within Palghar district without which we would not achieve all the work we have done so far.

We appreciate this very much indeed! Thank you.

# Kenneth Dsouza

Managing Trustee & CEO Gabriel Project Charitable Trust & Sundara Charitable Trust