

MWS COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATE (AS ON 12.04.2020)



MWS FOOD & HYGIENE KIT DISTRIBUTION



IN UTTAR PRADESH

PEOPLE REACHED: 1660

FOOD GRAINS DISTRIBUTED (IN KGS)- 2180

MASKS DISTRIBUTED: 4820

HAND WASH SOAPS DISTRIBUTED: 2520

**830 PEOPLE AGED ABOVE 60 YEARS
RECEIVED FOOD & HYGIENE KITS**

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Situation & Update Report#5 (12-04-2020)

MWS COVID-19 Response: Supporting Daily Wage Earners

a) COVID-19 situation in Azamgarh

- Four COVID-19 positive cases in Azamgarh District on 8th April 2020.
- 8000 people are on quarantine in different villages/locations in Azamgarh.
- Government has started a WhatsApp group of all Village Pradhan's in Azamgarh district.
- Based on estimation and sampling, more than 25000 daily wage laborers are affected in Azamgarh because of COVID-19 lockdown. They are not able to earn and survival is at risk.
- There is need of about 350000 masks initial approximation based on: a) population, b) people from vulnerable section, c) our own experience of working in the district d) media reports and mask as one criterion to minimise the risk of spread of COVID-19.
- At community level there is hardly any understanding of social distancing.
- Government efforts a) involved *asha* workers in pre-screening of all villagers b) turned all government schools in quarantine canters c) daily monitoring of lockdown by senior officials c) essential services are in operation

b) MWS COVID-19 Response

Mijwan Welfare Society (MWS) has started responding to COVID-19 from 2nd April 2020 by supporting the daily wage earners through a) Dry Food grain Kit -Includes rice & dal b) Hygiene kit-includes two masks and two soap per person per week. Apart from this MWS has also distributed masks to the general community. MWS aims to distribute 10000 masks by 14th April 2020.

Area of COVID-19 response: Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh

Update of MWS COVID-19 response and distribution (as on 12/04/2020):

Support Offered and community reach	1st-2nd Day	3rd-4th Day	5th-6th Day	7th-8th Day	9th-10th Day	Total
People reached	240	320	200	700	200	1660
Food grains distributed (in Kgs)-to needy ones only	310	800	720	125	225	2180
Masks distributed	240	2580	700	1000	300	4820
Soaps distributed	240	1280	800	100	100	2520

Source: MWS distribution list

Gender and ageing dynamics of MWS distribution to combat COVID-19

Gender and ageing dynamics of MWS distribution		
	Food & Hygiene support (including masks)	Masks only
Aged (60+)-Female	510	70
Aged (60+)-Male	310	40
Aged (20-60)-Female	240	60
Aged (20-60)-Male	220	50
Aged below 20 years	60	100
Total	1340	320

Source: MWS distribution list

c) Innovation by MWS team

- MWS has started a distribution system of 'pick & go' where we keep the material (food and hygiene kits) at one place and people come one by one after wearing face mask and pick-up the MWS Food & Hygiene kit and go. This helps to maintain social distancing and neither community nor any MWS staff get in contact with anyone.
- Focus on identifying the most vulnerable through local staff and avoid duplication (where already someone is distributing food materials) through daily getting updates from local media and newspaper.
- Let's understand Mijwan Welfare Society system of operation in COMBATING COVID-19 and supporting daily wage earners as:

First Step (Communication)	Through means of technology (phone), media, government sources and local expertise we identify the area in need (where food and hygiene kit support are required for daily wagers).
Second Step (Procurement-supply chain)	MWS procurement process includes local ration shop as well as from the local farmers (both female & male) -food grains (raw) mainly from those farmers who have extra food and are not able to sell their produce in this lock down period. This helps rural economy to keep going on (without stepping out of home) and maintains supply chain.
Third Step (Packaging)	MWS packaging of grains and hygiene support kit includes all protection i.e. wearing gloves, wearing mask and maintain social distancing.
Fourth Step (distribution)	We use small vehicle so that we could reach to unreached and park the vehicle in the needy area and put the mask on a chair, people come one by one maintain social distancing, wear mask and then pick food and hygiene kit and go. We call it 'Pick & Go' method.



- MWS team have distributed 50 masks to Phulpur kotwali (Police Station) and 100 masks to different media people.
- Two villages named Mijwan and Itkohiya of Phulpur tehsil in Azamgarh are 100% mask equipped. MWS team has distributed masks to everyone in these two villages.
- From 11th April 2020 we have included cooking oil (250 grams bottle) in our food kit distribution.
- Cost of production of our mask is INR 3.30 per mask (double layered).

d) Key challenges at community level

- For agriculture labourers it's an important time to get engaged in crop harvesting, but because of fear of spread COVID-19, they are not able to go outside and get the work. One the other hand farming community is feeling helpless because of unavailability of farm labourers.
- There are many types of fear roaming in the mind of daily wager earners a) about their family members who are still in Delhi, Mumbai and other cities b) when lock down will open and will they able to get the job c) how long they can survive in their won village d) what about other health issues (apart from COVID-19) and e) maintain social distance in small houses.
- Its difficult to lock down villages
- Challenges with local leadership
- Rumours over take reality

e) Key challenges for MWS team in distribution

- Psychological fear of Corona virus keeps on roaming in mind.
- Making community to understand 'social distancing'. It's very difficult to convince community on 'social distancing'. To overcome this MWS team is guiding and community on social distancing and before distribution ensure that everyone must have mask.
- At present we are the only key NGO working on supporting daily wage earners. There are certain organisation and individuals who are also engaged in food and health kit (mainly mask) distribution, but most of them are not registered and they themselves are not following the basic practice of social distancing. This might lead to give wrong message in community about social distancing.
- Some of us working at MWS are away from our own families, thus manging psychological (especially a sad situation) pressure is another key challenge.
- Its harvesting season, and farmers have to go out and it's difficult to maintain social distancing there. MWS team is also guiding farmers on this.

f) Video links of MWS COVID-19 response

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoL2amO0JnvU0NFYN461v_w

g) Media coverage of MWS COVID-19 response

https://circle.page/azamgarh/news/mezva-is-becoming-a-mask-under-the-direction-of-film-actress-UP2560739?utm_source=an&person=Z3cpie/

<http://ggsnews24.com/15395/>

https://circle.page/post/2469813?utm_source=an&person=Z3cpie

https://circle.page/post/2469813?utm_source=an&person=Z3cpie

https://publicapp.co.in/video/sp_izotht0meseqa

https://circle.page/azamgarh/news/shabana-azmis-call-on-mask-distributed-among-journalists-UP2543868?utm_source=an&person=Z3cpie/

h) Pictures from the ground: You can view pictures from the ground on MWS Facebook and twitter page:

<https://www.facebook.com/mijwan/>

<https://twitter.com/MWSYouth>

You can donate to the endeavours of MWS to combat COVID-19 at: <https://www.mijwan.org/campaigns/covid-19-support-the-daily-wage-earners/>

If you want to support through CSR or want MWS to be your partner please write to us at ceo@mijwan.org