

Rapid Assessment on Disaster and Response Report

Region: Koraput

State: Odisha

KORAPUT REGION

Covid-19 has affected life and livelihoods of the Kalanjiam members in the interior areas of Koraput Region. In Koraput region, DHAN Foundation is working with tribal people. The virus awareness among tribal areas is almost zero. More than 70% tribal people are unaware of the symptoms and preventive measures. Tribal people are of the opinion that the corona virus affects only foreigners and not them. Adversely they are believed alcohol consumption prevents corona virus infection. The lives of these people are at stake as they are consuming local made alcohol.

Gram Panchayats viz., Deoghati, Dumuripadar, Renga, Pakjhola, Khudi, Kunduli, Sedam etc., are more vulnerable and has possibility of spreading covid-19 as many migrants labour have returned back to the villages unchecked.

DHAN Foundation's Interventions

DHAN Foundation has created awareness campaigns among the interior tribal working areas. Has inaugurated corona Awareness Ratha. This Ratha covered more than 40 villages creating awareness among 30000 tribal people at different villages and market places. DHAN Foundation was the first civil society organization who runs ratha in the district. Trained our Kalanjiam members to stitch mask. More than 1000 masks have been made and distributed in the tribal villages. Made 1000 leaflets with Corona awareness messages and circulated among tribal people as well as general public in the local market places during ratha. Village level demos on how to wear masks, wash hands, keep social distance was demonstrated in the villages. A documentary film was prepared in local language with the local community involvement to create awareness among the tribal people. Aradhana Kalanjiam of Deoghati took in-charge of food cooking and distribution at the Gram Panchayat isolation centre.

2500 Kalanjiam members working as daily wage laborer lost their livelihoods

3500 Kalanjiam members are unable to sell their agriculture produces and are awaiting government support