Covid-19 lockdown relief report – I

After WHO has declared Corona Virus as a Pandemic, an organisation Dalit Bahujan Resource center (DBRC [www.dbrc.org]) has initiated the following interventions.

DBRC is implementing 2 Interventions, one for the Dalit Adivasi communities and another for the Waste Pickers and Sanitary workers. DBRC has an approval to provide relief to 1000 Dalit Adivasis based in slums and 200 waste pickers. Hence DBRC are trying to mobilise additional resources to provide relief for another 800 Waste Picker families, so that DBRC can support them during this emergency.

DBRCs Interventions:

- Both Text and Voice messages were sent to communities, where DBRC is engaged with, about the severity of the Corona Virus – its mode of Transmission, how to prevent oneself from being infected, Symptoms, what is to be done if any symptoms are observed and so on. 
- Based on the IEC material developed by the union and the State government, DBRC has translated IEC material into Telugu and disseminated it through social media.

- With the Support of the local individual donors, DBRC could mobilize Rice and we instantly distributed them to 250 waste picker families in Guntur and Vijayawada.
- With the support of the local Trusts, DBRC could provide food for 60 Waste Pickers regularly and 156 Waste pickers twice.
- DBRC could provide milk to 89 Waste Pickers in Vijayawada.
- Rice, groceries and vegetables were provided to 108 migrants from Jharkhand, Bihar, Orrisa and Uttar Pradesh at Guntur, Vijayawada and Amaravathi and also linked them to government department for providing food every day. This was appreciated by the Chief Minister of Jharkhand who tweeted the efforts of DBRC tagging the photograph of the labourers with DBRC team.
• Resources mobilised from existing donors will suffice to distribute relief kits to 1200 families. Distribution is already underway for the 200 Waste Pickers families; and the 1000 families of slum dwellers in Guntur, Vijayawada and Eluru.

• The Proposed Kit costing approximately Rs. 500 will consist of
  1. Rice – 5 kg
  2. Dhal – 1 kg
  3. Oil – 1 kg
  4. Onions – 1 ½ kg
  5. Soaps – 3

• Breakfast was provided to the families at the dumpyard in Guntur. Till now, relief kits were distributed to 30 families at the dumping yard in Guntur and 230 Waste Pickers integrated into door to door collection were provided with relief kits in guntur and 300 slum dwellers in vijayawada and 200 waste pickers in Eluru received the relief kits.
DBRC, as part of national level network, is planning to conduct a survey to assess the Implementation of the schemes proposed by the State and union governments.

We need additional resources to support nearly 800 families and to revisit these families after a week and repeat the kits if necessary. We are looking for a support of a minimum of Rs. 1,000,000 to tide over these critical times.