

# JEEViKA's Newsletter

## What's Inside



SPECIAL EDITION

*Battling the AES outbreak through concerted efforts in awareness, food security and precautionary measures*  
Pg - 4

*Ek Mutthi Anaaj an initiative for the Community by the Community*  
Pg - 6

## JEEViKA's initiatives for resettlement of In-Migrants in Bihar



When the country was gripped by a nationwide lock-down, another crisis was looming up pertaining to reverse migration of labors from other states and major metropolitan cities. The lock-down invited an influx of a large number of migrants who became jobless due to the lock-down or had no other options as markets, factories, workshops and the likes were shut down to prevent gatherings and reduce the spread of the infection.



Bihar also saw one of the largest migrant movements from other states. About 30 lakh migrants returned in Bihar. As such, the need of the hour became to welcome these in-migrants back in the state, create confidence among them about the positive environment in the state and create opportunities for jobs and business. There was a need to acquaint them with the schemes in the state, map their skills and identify their needs for proper utilization of their existing expertise. JEEViKA took several initiatives to intervene and came up with the following activities for resettlement and rehabilitation of these in-migrants in the state. The major highlights of the activities undertaken by JEEViKA for in-migrants are as follows:



### Awareness & Orientation on JEEViKA's activities in the quarantine centers

JEEViKA has been actively involved in engaging with the in-migrants who are currently in the quarantine centers, JEEViKA has been taking sessions on providing awareness and orientation regarding the activities being undertaken by it in the rural premises of Bihar and how they can get associated with SHGs and livelihood activities. Sessions are being taken formally under the banner of “JEEViKA Pathshala” with all precautionary measures in place.

These sessions have also given the in-migrants a brief overview of the affairs of the state after being disconnected for so long, JEEViKA's steps towards the prevention of the pandemic and what role can the in-migrants play are being discussed through these sessions.

### Identification of migrant laborers/workers with family in JEEViKA for ease of access to business loans

Due to the lockdown and the resulting reverse migration, several people had left their work and businesses and as such it became essential to create a business friendly environment for them so that they can restore their livelihoods and gather resources for sustenance. JEEViKA through its strong CBO presence enquired about the relatives and family members of these migrants affiliated with JEEViKA as SHG members, community resource persons or office bearers.



37 migrant workers have already received their cheques in Areraj, East Champaran under this and have started various business activities

JEEViKA then through these CBOs started facilities for access to loan from the concerned VOs/ CLFs for setting up of business activity in their native blocks. Loans are being passed under this and have started various business activities. E-Rickshaws, Transport Vehicles, Motor Carts and petty shops have been the primary choice of business for them. JEEViKA has planned to extend loans through SHGs/VOs/CLFs to over 25,000 migrants

### Running community kitchens for quarantine centers and maintenance of hygiene

With the purview of the safety of people amid the lockdown and the pandemic, quarantine centers were started in large numbers across the state of Bihar. JEEViKA had been extending services to these quarantine centers. From taking the



responsibility of serving food to raising awareness among the quarantined inmates, JEEViKA didis had extended several round services to these centers. The local administration contacted JEEViKA's officials and CBOs and brief about the various services that are to be lent to the inmates in the quarantine centers such as information on the pandemic, precautionary measures, as well as serving meals. JEEViKA didis were engaged in serving meals to the quarantine centers across various locations in Bihar. They've been worked tirelessly on this front and have supplied hygienic meals to the inmates.

JEEViKA didis services to the quarantine centers have been particularly successful especially in Buxar and Sheikhpura where the didis had serving food to more than 500 quarantined inmates every day during the lockdown.

### JEEViKA's cluster facilitation teams engaged in mapping MGNREGA job cards for in-migrants

Emphasizing on the CFT blocks, JEEViKA is also aiding the reverse migrant labors who have returned to the state in getting their Job Cards. JEEViKA has connected with and mobilized returnee migrant workers and have ensured their job cards benefitting their households.

To further safeguard the interests of the workers, it has been decided as per RDD, GoBs circular that for every 25 MGNREGA workers, a JEEViKA didi mate would be placed who would ensure social distancing, sanitization, hand washing, usage of masks among other precautionary measures. In order to ensure this, JEEViKA SHG members are being identified by the Village Organization. Priority is being given to such women whose livelihoods have been severely affected by the lockdown. This step would ensure that these women can secure their livelihoods.

### Inclusion of family members of returnee migrants in JEEViKA SHGs

After the reverse migration, family members of these migrant workers are also being assimilated in the JEEViKA self-help groups, for scope building towards social inclusion, livelihoods and access to entitlements, 40,000 members of such workers have been brought into the fold of JEEViKA's self-help groups.

### Extension of services through Bihar Migrant Resource Center, Gurgaon

Bihar Migrant Resource Centre established in 2014 under JEEViKA skills (BMRC) seeks to address the needs of migrants. From being a recreational space to information centre, the BMRC aspires to support, counsel and impart guidance to anyone who walks in the centre in matters pertaining to their safe travel, adequate information about destination cities, employment opportunities and skill training centers. The BMRC has also been roped in for mask production during the COVID-19 crisis.





### **Battling the AES outbreak through concerted efforts in awareness, food security and precautionary measures**

Last year, June 2019 saw an unprecedented AES outbreak that took a heavy toll on lives, the disease which especially affects children. In subsequent months more cases and deaths were reported. While the initial cause of outbreak remained unclear. Malnutrition, climate, hygiene, and lack of awareness were considered as contributing factors.

JEEViKA subsequently took several initiatives to curb the outbreak, spread awareness, inclusion of affected families in JEEViKA's self-help groups and interventions and massive campaigning for dissemination of precautionary measures against the disease. The measures are highlighted as below:

Implementation of AES support to the needy HHs through SHGs/VO, CMs, CRNRPs, MRPS and staff

1. Instead of 5 blocks that were majorly affected by the AES outbreak all 16 Blocks of Muzaffarur have been given equal focus for AES awareness, food security and the likes.
2. With reference to the recent approval of Community Investment Fund all VOs may avail FSF and HRF fund who have not yet received or they use available FSF and HRF fund for procurement of rice, wheat/flour and other on direct contract method of community procurement and justification note will be written in the meeting minutes by the OB leaders committee or existing said committee. The lock down and the CORONA pandemic and AES emergency support requirement the above method was taken. The direct contract method will be applicable till the lockdown period only. However the vO may also use their own corpus fund for food procurement. As per existing provision individual SHG members may also take direct loan and purchase the food other requirements during this period. Considering existing lockdown situations individual loan and individual procurement may also be promoted by concerned VO/SHGs. So in case of these districts and blocks concerned VO and SHG may provide direct individual loan to procure the food.

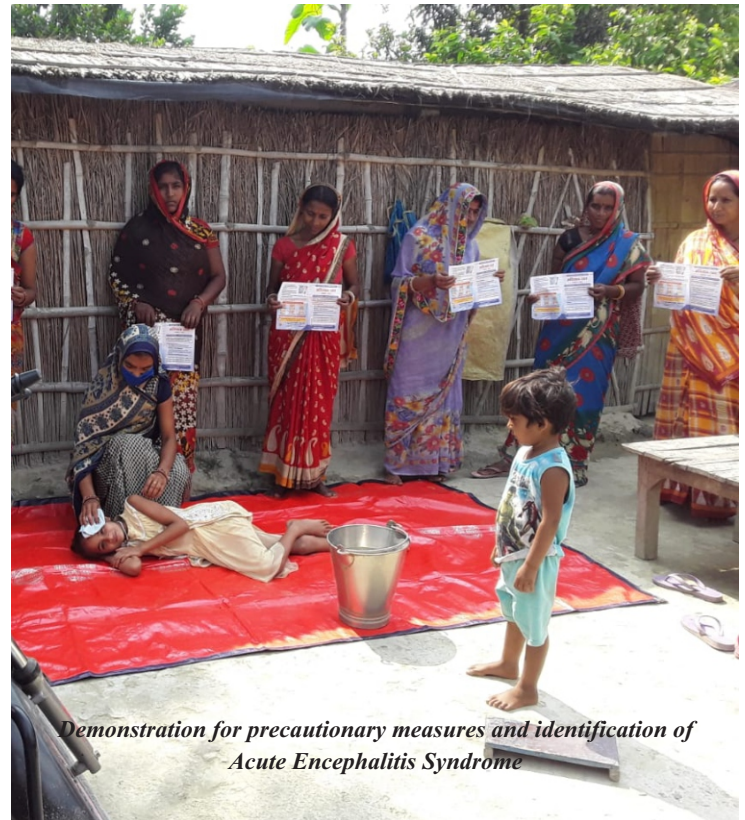




3. Besides the above Food loan there may be special provision of additionally a package of necessary food items (i.e. ORS, jaggery, Chura, Glucon-D, biscuits etc for 30 days requirements of a HH) may be procured with above mentioned direct contract process or through individual loan to the concerned HHs. The same FSF and HRF or if needed their available fund may be used for this loan product which will be without interest. The DPCU will finalize the defined mandatory items that need to be kept at vulnerable HHs having children aged between 1-15 years. (Vulnerable HHs SC/ST HHs, Madalit families, women headed family, labourer and migrant poor HHs etc)

## Rekindling the dentures with awareness

Lack of awareness and preparedness was cited amongst the major reasons of the fatalities from the outbreak, JEEViKA stepped in for generation of awareness and imparted training to its community professionals for reaching out to the community.



*Demonstration for precautionary measures and identification of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome*

JEEViKA started disseminating information related to precautionary measures with a leaflet especially designed to address the issues such as nutrition, identification, medical access, prevention. JEEViKA's Mobile Vaani platform was specifically deployed in Muzaffarpur for AES awareness messaging through audio spots and IVR for queries. The program was launched by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar on 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2019.

JEEViKA has developed a flipchart across 4 sessions with content on AES, the flipchart has also been made into a video to give virtual training to the community professionals and the community.



JEEViKA's community professionals have made door to door demonstrations pertaining to steps needed to be taken for identification of AES and precautions.

JEEViKA is continually working towards reducing the intensity of outbreak, and preparing for the months of June and July when the impact of the disease is considered to be at its peak.





### EK Mutthi Anaaj- An initiative for the community, by the community

JEEViKA didis have started a campaign to help the vulnerable families in their community. As part of the campaign, the JEEViKA didis of the panchayat collect handful of wheat, rice, pulses, maize, vegetables and oil from the members associated with JEEViKA's self-help groups. The groceries collected by the community members are distributed among such families who have been adversely affected by the lock-down especially in terms of livelihoods.



### JEEViKA's Newsletter completes 3 years

With the 37<sup>th</sup> Edition, the Newsletter of BRLPS-JEEViKA has completed 3 years, it was launched in 2017 and has been constantly highlighting the initiatives of JEEViKA. It has become one of the most sought after periodical published by JEEViKA and is being disseminated to a large audience both national and global.

The response from the audience has also been positive with inclusion of feedbacks received from them. The newsletter tries to ensure that maximum information is captured in a brief format.

The first issue -  
JEEViKA's Newsletter, June 2017

### Custom Hiring Centers as a relief for women farmers

In Jalalgarh block of Purnia, threshing of harvested corn has begun with the support from the Custom Hiring Center nurtured by JEEViKA. This has come as a huge relief for our farmer Didis.





## In the News

**Immunization work with district administration @ Bhojpur**

JEEViKA in coordination with district immunization officer & through it's community professionals is carrying out routine immunization for children, pregnant & lactating mothers who're a part of JEEViKA on scheduled days in all 14 blocks of Bhojpur

This step has ensured that the health of children and women remain in a proper state so as to better battle the pandemic.



## Transforming Lives

**Battling Lock-down Blues**

The stress induced due to livelihoods coming at a halt due to the compulsory nationwide lock-down to check the spread of corona had also severely affected the daily wage earners. JEEViKA through Satat Jeevikoparjan Yojana is identifying such people and providing them with a cash grant and food grains. Parvati Devi, a resident of Brahmpur block in Buxar, who works as an agriculture labour was identified for the grant. Parvati lost her husband four years ago and she is the only earning member of her family. For few days, she borrowed groceries from a nearby grocery shop, but the shopkeeper refused to lend after a period. As such she sought help from her self-help group, of which she's a member from past four years. She was endorsed by the village organization for the grant. She could fulfill her needs with the grant and feed her only child. Over 37000 women like Parvati have been aided from this cash grant program and the sudden shock of livelihood obstruction has been mitigated to some order.



## Cart to tide over crisis

Ramawati Devi, a resident of Areraj in East Champaran, and member of Chameli SHG in Akash VO, undertook a new initiative to help the people in her village and nearby places. During the COVID-19 pandemic people associated with JEEViKA be it the officials, community professionals or the community members, have undertaken several initiatives, Ramawati is one of them. Ramawati says that the lockdown had severely affected her livelihoods as she and her husband, who is especially abled and cannot engage in activities that require heavy labor. Both of them worked as agricultural workers with her husband taking care of petty works. Ramawati says that she consulted her SHG members and Master Resource Person who advised her on doing a vegetable retail business. She took a loan from the VO for the same and got herself an e-rickshaw for door-to-door selling of vegetables. Her e-rickshaw was flagged off by the SDO on its debut day, Ramawati's husband drives the cart while she is takes care of the business operations.



June

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 3 : Hon'ble CM of Bihar's Samvaad on COVID-19

June 20 : Hon'ble PM of India launched Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan

## COMING UP IN THE NEXT EDITION

- JEEViKA's initiatives towards a greener tomorrow with Harit JEEViKA-Harit Bihar Abhiyaan



JEEVIKA

Rural Development Department, Govt. of Bihar

Bihar Rural Livelihoods Promotion Society

Vidhyut Bhawan-II, Bailey Road, Patna - 800021; Ph.: +91-612-250 4980  
Fax: +91-612 250 4960, Website : www.brllp.in; e-mail: info@brllp.in