

The Enormous Role Of Non-Government Organizations In India's Covid Situation

Dr. N. Subburaj¹, Anas Rayees²

¹Professor, Department of Management,
SRK University, Bhopal, M.P.

²Research Scholar, Department of Management,
SRK University, Bhopal, M.P.

ABSTRACT:

Under Lockdown India, non-governmental organizations continue to be essential to maintaining society's safety while fostering development and raising awareness.

Large and small non-governmental organizations are working nonstop to accomplish a massive mission in the heart of the expanding COVID-19 storm. Due to the new effects of the coronavirus lockdown on the economy and society, particularly for disadvantaged groups such as day laborers in the unorganized sector, laborers, construction workers, and street vendors have not been able to attend either work or school. Nonprofit organizations provided assistance to migrant workers and the pandemic. These organizations assisted the migrant laborers by giving them access to transportation, food, and water. This Article will provide a brief evaluation of the significance of the role and NGOs' (non-governmental organizations) role to India's current circumstances (2020's first half). Governments can fall short of filling up the gaps.

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), who are unsung heroes in this situation, have made their mark because they aid in filling communication and distribution gaps in underdeveloped communities have gone unnoticed.

KEYWORDS: Pandemic, NGOs, fight against COVID-19, underprivileged communities.

INTRODUCTION

The Covid-19 coronavirus outbreak has reached practically all of the world's nations as of the time of this writing. Kerala, India, was chosen to host the first COVID-19 event on January 30, 2020. When

the incident occurred, a university student was traveling back to Kerala from Wuhan, China. In an effort to stop the spread of Novel Coronavirus, governments throughout the world have hurried to implement measures including mass testing, quarantine, and possibly even lockdown. They have also been monitoring their links. As of July 12th, 2020, India had a total of 849553 cases of the virus, and 22674 people had passed away. On March 24, 2020, the prime minister of India issued an order for a nationwide lockdown for 21 days following the implementation of a 14-hour public curfew on March 22. with such a little notice. As of July, the lockdown is still in effect. there was a slow Lockdowns will last longer between March 24, 2020, and May 31, 2020. Unlock-2 will operate with more lenient constraints starting July 1, 2020, and this keep on till July 31, 2020 Depending on how severe it is, we can divide the government shutdown into two phases: the Hard Lockdown, which started on March 25 and will stay until May 4, and the Moderate Lockdown, which started on May 5 and will last until May 14. (From 5 May until June 30. The strict lockdown has had an impact on people's life, especially those of marginalized populations including homeless people and migratory workers. When it comes to the circumstance at hand, moderate lockdowns aren't substantially worse for those impacted than tight lockdowns. On the other hand, a widespread shutdown could have effects that are felt throughout society. According to a fast poll done by Caritas India in 18 states throughout India, "80% of the small and marginal farmers stated that their income has decreased after the COVID-19 epidemic," according to results released on June 6, 2020. In this article, I analyze how NGOs help India's underprivileged neighbourhoods and the benefits they provide. Non-governmental organizations play a wide range of functions, including those in service delivery, welfare initiatives for community development, human rights, fair governance, and citizen participation. In the world, organizations are active. It's possible that they might help a number of other crucial industries. non-governmental organizations' participation the reaction of the government. The Prime Minister of India claims that nongovernmental organizations are valued ally in difficult times. Non-Governmental Organizations, which are a component of civil society, have stepped up to increase awareness of COVID-19 and carry out development initiatives for those less fortunate in our society.

THE HISTORY OF NGOs IN INDIA:

Although volunteer organizations that operate within or outside of national borders have a long history, "non-governmental organizations" have just recently begun operating. Both volunteer organizations and non-profit organizations have existed for a very long period. Its forefathers originated in India, which has rich soil. Throughout India's ancient and medieval eras, volunteering was actively and widely practiced in the fields of education, medical, and cultural advancement. During this time, charitable organizations focused on social and spiritual reforms and provided assistance to the impoverished and weaker elements of society in the event of disasters like illness, floods, and foreign invasion (Inamdar, 1987). These organizations are devoted to making the world a better place for everyone. Among individuals who devoted their life to bettering the lives of Indians were Raja Rammohan Roy, Devendranath Tagore, Jyotiba Phule, Keshab Chandra Sen, Dayanand Saraswati, Syed Ahmed Khan, and Swami Vivekananda. To aid women in India, organizations such as Friends-in-Need Association (1858), Prarthana Samaj (1864), and the National Council for Women in India were founded in the second half of the 19th century (1875). During this time, they were also interested with improving their health and living conditions, as well as educating women, tribe members, and others. After Mahatma Gandhi returned to India in 1916, the focus of development efforts shifted to achieving economic self-sufficiency as a primary goal. First, along with other positive initiatives like temperance, Mahatma Gandhi launched his own campaign to end the practice of untouchability. Among other things, he established the Harijan Sevak Sangh and the All-Village Industries Association as suitable National Organizations with dedicated employees. In India today, there are many non-governmental organizations that deal with a wide range of concerns, from disaster relief to assisting the nation's most marginalized residents. There are several organizations like this around the country (Quartz News). The NGO Darpan website of the Indian government reports that there are currently 94819 non-profit organizations in India that have been registered. However, unregistered nonprofit organizations (NPOs) are rapidly helping people around the nation who are in need. They significantly influence the rate of societal development as a part of civil society. Non-governmental organizations are a crucial part of our society because they help to close the gap between theory and practice. Due to the state of affairs in our nation, nongovernmental

organizations, with their numerous connections to numerous socioeconomic difficulties. We must not undervalue the ability of non-governmental organizations to reach out to populations who have historically received inadequate services.

NGOs FOR THE MARGINAL COMMUNITY

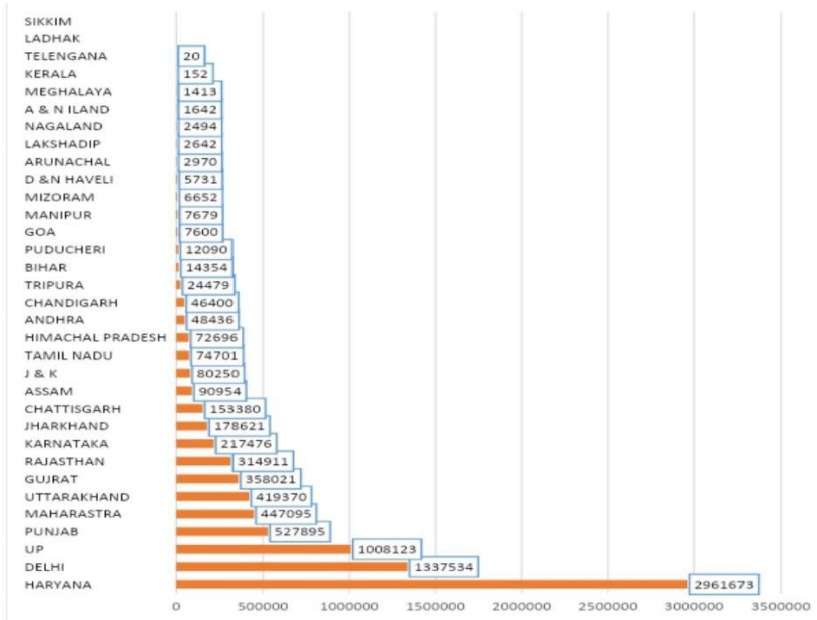
In today's world of development, the function of non-governmental organizations in meeting the needs of oppressed and marginalized people is a hot topic. The outbreak caused unfavourable circumstances that had an impact on all aspects of Indian culture, but the Groups of farmers and migrant workers borne a disproportionate amount of the financial load. As the Lockdown remained through the end of May, and rural areas suffered from high unemployment rates in addition to metropolitan areas.

The most vulnerable citizens of India have suffered severe harm as a result of the ongoing lockdown. Citizens who lack access to basic necessities like food, shelter, and medical care therapy, along with additional needs. Even though the government is required to provide health and safety protections, they have been scaled back or eliminated. buses and trains. Tens of thousands of migrant workers are stuck because services have been cut off. all throughout the nation. employees in Rajasthan, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Bihar, and Uttar Pradesh have started taking the long route home from work. Nonprofit organizations have emerged as the disadvantaged population's only source of hope in the face of these circumstances. Nongovernmental organizations and associations that speak for civil society are the third and most crucial pillar of support in the fight against Novel Coronavirus.

It is safe to claim that the majority of nonprofit organizations have the necessary assets, expertise, and knowledge to significantly impact national pandemic preparedness and response. In order to have a big impact in India, a number of non-governmental organizations spread out across the nation collaborated with volunteers. To assist people who were impacted by the lockdown, including as customers at the daily waging terminals, the homeless, and others, we dispatched volunteers from all around the nation. According to India Today, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in thirteen states and union territories (UTs) provided more people with food during the statewide lockdown that began on March 25 than their respective state governments did. 8426509 persons in India received food during the first stage

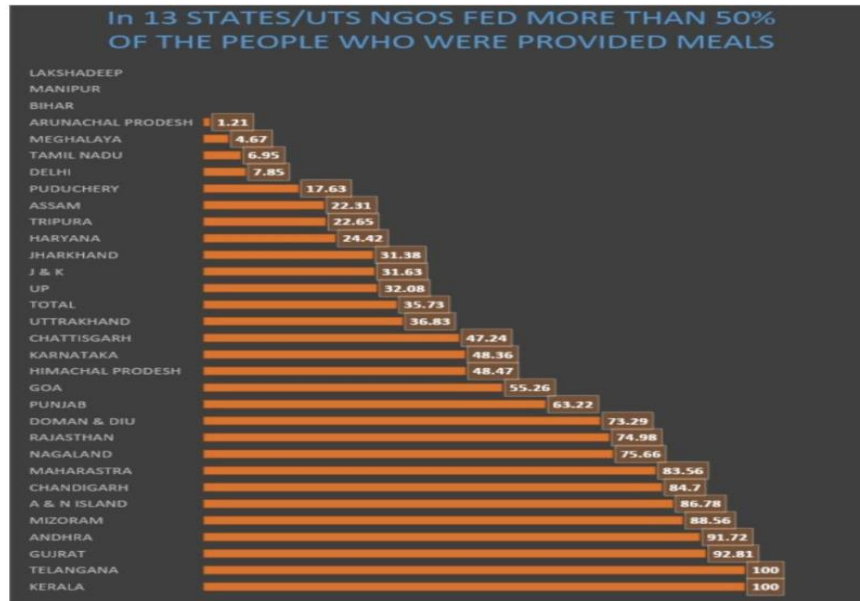
of the lockdown, according to the Indian government's April 7 submission to the Supreme Court. Out of this total of 54.15 lakh people, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) provided meals for the remaining 30.11 lakh people.

Total number of people fed in the states during lockdown:



Source: Government of India reply in Supreme Court on 7 April 2020

Percentage of NGOs in the total number of individuals fed during a lockdown situation



Source: Government of India reply in Supreme Court on 7 April 2020

Non-governmental organizations have also built a number of shelters across the nation for individuals in need. According to the government's response, state governments and non-governmental organizations in India gave refuge to 10.37 lakh individuals. 10.37 lakh people, or 39.14% of the total, were lodged in NGOs' camps. This demonstrates that NGOs are performing at their best. Sheltering those affected by the shutdown is one of the main initiatives carried out by NGOs in Maharashtra. In Maharashtra, there are currently 4 lakh 47,000 individuals living in shelters and relief camps, with 83.56 percent of them being housed by non-governmental organizations. If we compare Meghalaya and Maharashtra, there is a 95 percent difference in the number of people residing in relief camps in the two states. Over 40% of persons staying in shelters or relief camps in six states, including the District of Columbia, received housing assistance from NGOs. The national and state governments of India have supported community kitchens and provided free meals to the poor and homeless, but their efforts have not yet been totally successful. Several non-governmental organizations and volunteer groups are working around the clock to distribute food and other supplies to underprivileged individuals, in addition to state and federal measures. The following is a list of some of the nonprofit organizations now spearheading the continuing relief effort:

HEALTH NGOs:

The fight against COVID-19 needs the involvement of as many individuals as possible in order to be effective. The task was simply too big for the government to do alone.

Here, the inefficiency of NGOs may be demonstrated. An outstanding contribution was made by non-governmental organizations to support the government's initiatives to establish health camps and manage volunteers to provide services to individuals of all ages and capacities.

To increase awareness at the local level, they have worked to build communication methods in different parts of our country. In addition to their physical health being badly impacted by the Novel Coronavirus outbreak, people's emotional health has also suffered. Anxiety and worry are prevalent among people of all ages, including kids, working women, the elderly, and those with underlying medical conditions. Numerous medical experts, including the Indian Psychiatry Society (IPS), have seen an increase in the level of mental stress that people are feeling as a result of the present lockdown situation. Numerous non-governmental organizations have stepped up their efforts to aid the people in reaction to this circumstance. People in lockdown India are receiving assistance from a number of non-governmental organizations, including as The Mind Foundation, Diya Foundation, Neptune Foundation, and The Banyan, to deal with mental health issues.

NGOs FOR FARMERS:

Despite the fact that the administration announced a number of measures at the end of March, including the exclusion of agriculture and fishing from the closure's restrictions, there were holes in their actual implementation. Considering the situation at however, a number of non-governmental organizations with local offices have been tasked with delivering the required assistance to the extent that it is attainable.

The findings of a brief study carried out by Caritus India on the effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the smallholder agriculture industry have been presented. The main areas of focus of the study were the effects of the pandemic on agricultural output, food availability and nutrition, distribution, and the production of income and expenses. Additionally, the availability of food and nutrition were examined. Some startling results of a study conducted by Caritus India were made public. According to the report, 80.4 percent of farmers experienced a decline in income.

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are working tirelessly to support farmers as though they were unsung heroes in the middle of this crisis. Only 55.4% of farmers have gotten aid from non-governmental organizations and the government, and 9.4% of farmers have not received any assistance from either, according to the results of a recent research.

ACTIVITIES OF SOME IMPORTANT NGOs:

The national and state governments of India have supported community kitchens and provided free meals to the poor and homeless, but their efforts have not yet been totally successful. Many volunteer groups and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are working tirelessly to assist individuals who are in dire need of food and other necessities. The non-profit organizations presently leading the relief effort are listed below: The New Delhi-based MCKS Food for the Hungry Foundation is a nonprofit organization that works to end hunger in India. According to information found on the MCKS website as of July 9, 2020, they increased the kitchen's capacity by a factor of 12 in order to better accommodate the city of New Delhi's population during the lockdown. The result has been the delivery of more than 400000 prepared meals and 4 lakh dry rations to disadvantaged people and those who were unable to visit feeding facilities during the tragedy. In response to COVID-19, SAFA and 15 other organizations are organizing relief activities for the migrant communities in North Karnataka (including Hyderabad, Bengaluru, and Chennai) and North Karnataka (including Mumbai). The first line of defence against Novel Coronavirus in the United States is waste pickers, who keep cities and towns clean of litter. Due to their line of work, they are also among the most susceptible populations to disease. Over 7,000 city employees and residents in the surrounding area will benefit from a fundraiser organized by the Kashtakari Panchayat in Pune. Additionally, safety equipment (gloves and masks), soap, and disinfectant were bought for those in need. Other purchases included grain, pulses, oil, and sugar. The Kashtakari Panchayat helps garbage collectors in the following ways:

 Support Kits for Waste Pickers 		Approx. unit cost	Units per waste picker per month	Cost for one month
Personal Protective Equipment	Soaps/Sanitisers	20	4	80
	Gloves	34	3	102
	Masks	50	2	100
Ration	Jowar	30	5 kg	150
	Wheat	30	5 kg	150
	Rice	35	5 kg	175
	Pulses	140	2 kg	280
	Legumes	200	1 kg	200
	Sugar	30	5 kg	150
	Tea	480	0.5 kg	240
	Oil	120	5 l	600
PPE + Ration Kit for one wastepicker				2227

Source: Kashtakari Panchayat website, accessed on 8 July 2020.

Global humanitarian organization CARE is assisting the most disadvantaged women and girls in the fight against COVID-19 by collaborating with partners in more than 100 countries. A team of more than 1400 people from CARE India are assisting the Bihar government with contact tracing, monitoring, infection control, laboratory and hospital strengthening, and other aspects of the fight against COVID-19. The Akshaya Patra Foundation intervened to provide relief by distributing food to thousands of people all around the country beginning with the first phase of lockdown, working closely with state governments and district administration. The Akshaya Patra website, visited on July 10, claims that the relief effort has started by giving people who are in need of assistance a meal or a dry ration. An overview of the painful lockdown efforts made by the Akshaya Patra Foundation:

STATES	CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF MEALS & GROCERY KITS (AS ON 8 Jul 2020)
Rajasthan	84,15,949 meals & 10,960 kits
Gujarat	71,37,864 meals & 1,500 kits
NCR	46,04,838 meals & 81,283 kits
Uttar Pradesh	12,99,400 meals & 54,999 kits
Karnataka	22,85,580 meals & 3,46,683 kits
Maharashtra	5,11,732 meals & 43,481 kits
Chhattisgarh	5,53,495 meals & 2,142 kits
Odisha	3,000 meals & 15,120 kits
Telangana	15,83,524 meals & 81,385 kits
Andhra Pradesh	1,41,323 meals & 29,866 kits
Assam	14,225 kits
Tamil Nadu	2,18,717 meals & 2,850 kits
Madhya Pradesh	15,000 kits
Uttarakhand	15,240 kits
Tripura	2,449 kits
West Bengal	1,000 kits
Punjab	1,000 kits
Jharkhand	2,480 kits
Himachal Pradesh	1,000 kits
TOTAL	2,67,55,422 MEALS & 7,22,663 KITS

Source: Akshaya Patra Foundation website, Accessed on 10 July 2020.

CONCLUSION

It is crucial to emphasize that nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) have been crucial during times of crisis, not just during COVID-19. This needs to be emphasized constantly, not just at COVID-19. It is widely believed that they contributed to easing the suffering that the majority of the nation's poor inhabitants had to face. Non-governmental organizations that work together are crucial Players in the preparatory programs.

The roles that non-governmental organizations and their networks play in the process of preparing for and responding to natural disasters can teach us a lot.

As a result, during India's lockdown, both the Indian government and the local population must acknowledge the crucial role that nongovernmental organizations perform. This is important because nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) play a crucial role

in helping vast swaths of Indian society recover from a catastrophic pandemic. The volunteer sector is perfectly situated to serve as both the voice of the underprivileged and the conscience for government initiatives. It is in the finest position to act as the voice of the underprivileged and, on the one hand, as the conscience for government initiatives.

REFERENCES:

1. <https://www.mohfw.gov.in> accessed on 12 July 2020.
2. Times of India
3. The Telegraph
4. Vidyavathi. A. „Women Voluntary Organizations and Social Change: A case study of AndhraMahila Sabha, Hyderabad“ in NGO and Development- The Indian Scenario, Ed. by Pawar S. N., RawatPublication, Jaipur & New Delhi, 2004
5. The Economic Times
6. The Indian Express
7. The Hindu
8. India Today
9. Deccan Herald
10. JamilahMahmood, „The Role of Non-Governmental Organization in Pandemic preparedness‘ inPandemic Preparedness in Asia ed. by Antony M. C.
11. Bloomberg Quint
12. Hindustan Times
13. Live Mint
14. The Telegraph online
15. Quartz News

Websites:

16. <http://www.ngodarpan.gov.in>
17. <https://www.nydhee.org>
18. <https://www.mcksfood.com>
19. <https://www.akshayapatra.org>
20. <https://www.humanityfirst.org>
21. <https://www.goonj.org>
22. <https://www.chikkafederation.org>
23. <https://www.careindia.org>
24. <https://www.kashtakaripanchayat.org>
25. <http://www.investindia.gov.in>