

Case study on addressing COVID19 challenges – Meghalaya

PERSONAL PROFILE

NAME: SMTI. KRESTINA SHYLLA

GROUP: DEIMONLANG SHG

VILLAGE: MULANG VILLAGE

BLOCK: KHLIEHRIAT C & RD BLOCK

DISTRICT: EAST JAINTIA HILLS DISTRICT

STATE: MEGHALAYA



On **19th September, 2020**, the Village Organisation was formed in our village MULANG village; the name of the VO is “**SEINTYLLILANG VO**” meaning “**UNITED VO**”. Seintyllilang VO is still very young at age, just 9 months running now, however we stand united together to fight against all ups and downs comes in our way, particularly during the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic which has hit hard to each and every individuals and family members including the entire community as a whole

Challenges face during the Covid-19 pandemic:

As we are from rural villages, most of us and our community members are mostly dependent on agriculture and allied activities, the Covid-19 pandemic had brought in severe hardship in terms of food insecurity, food supplies, livelihoods activities have been disturbed, market are not functional and there is no market for selling the agricultural products, movement were restricted, people Health are deteriorating including Covid-19 related issues and other threats. I have seen that the most affected ones are those families having elderly members, households headed by single women/mother, those who are critically and terminally ill persons including pregnant women, and daily wage earners/labours.

Addressing the COVID19 pandemic challenges and issues through collective action:

We have been strongly united together as the Village Organisation to fight against all challenges faced during the pandemic. We have put in all our efforts in bringing in all our SHG member fellows and the entire community members to come together and stand united to fight against the challenges and hardship faced because of the pandemic. We accept donations from anyone be it in cash or kinds, which includes food items, household items etc. to support those families who are the most needy and has been affected the most during this hard time as mentioned below:

- VO supported **Smti. Joy Dkhar**, from Shaniahtylli SHG, with food items as her family did not have any food to eat, due to the continuous lockdown
- The VO has financially support **Rs. 23,000/-** as emergency loan to the family of **(L) Smti. Ribha Dkhar**, who were hospitalized and died due to COVID-19, The VO has given this amount to

support the family to pay the hospitalisation Bills as the family was unable to pay the hospital bills expenses of (L) Smti. Ribha Dkhar

- The VO has supported **17 Poorest of the Poor** Households in distributing uncooked food items like Rice-200kg, Dal 25kg, Potatoes 100 Kgs, Cooking oil – 30 Litres
- The VO has donated cash amounting of **Rs. 21,000/-** to 10 household who are severely ill and hospitalized.
- The VO has also immediately released the CIF loans to **15 SHGs**, total amount of **Rs. 10,00,000/- (Rupees in words: Ten Lakhs only)** for livelihood activities, from the Community Investment Fund (CIF) received from Meghalaya State Rural Livelihoods Society (MSRLS), NRLM.
- The VO, along the Community Cadres, has conducted 5 Awareness Programmes on Covid19 Appropriate Behavioral Management, Mild COVID-19 Management at Home, and Vaccination drives during which 30 elderly people above 45 years have come forward to take their job.
- 100 nos. of face masks were donated by two SHGs and the same was distributed to the community members especially the people who cannot afford to buy mask.
- The VO set up the Grocery Stores within the village so that the SHG members can easily access their food items in cash or even in credit if they are in crisis.

Conclusion:

The result which Seintyllilang VO has been able to played its vital role during this pandemic; it is because of the strong foundation and right facilitation built by the District & Block Mission Staff from Khliehriat Block. Including support receive from the Village Heads, Church Leaders and other welfare organization within the village



“SEINTYLLILANG VO QOUTE”

**“ALONE WE CAN DO SO LITTLE, TOGETHER WE
CAN DO SO MUCH”**

SO STAND UNITED – SEINTYLLILANG VO