



Being a Silver lining  
amidst pandemic

COVID-19  
An Initiative and Response  
by Nepal Region

## FROM THE REGION SUPERIOR'S DESK

**C**OVERID-19 is very unfortunate. Many precious human lives are lost. It has broken the rhythm of whole socio-economic pace. It has affected the whole globe irrespective of nationality, caste, creed and gender. It is one of the severe pandemics the world has ever faced.

Positively COVID-19 has taught us to expect the unexpected. It has humbled our pride. We glorified our knowledge, successes and achievements. We put ourselves at the center and God at the edge. However, our most advanced and latest knowledge couldn't defeat a small virus. It turned the whole system topsy-turvy. It forced us to pause and review our life. Perhaps after a long time we had time to listen to birds chirping, to admire the full bloomed flowers, to look at the stars at night, and without our knowledge the words 'how great is God' escaped from our mouth. Daily temple bells and church bells couldn't take us to God, but a small virus brought us back to God. Today we thank God for being alive and for His creation. No treaty and alliance could unite the world, but a small virus united the whole world. These days the air is fresh, but we are forced to wear mask, the road is free, but we cannot take a walk. A small virus brought such a great contradiction. The life-lesson corona virus taught us is 'small things are great; never underestimate small things'.

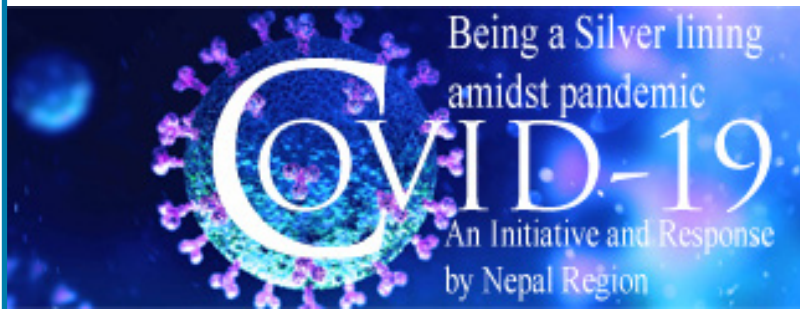
The harsh reality and experience is we are in the same storm, but not in the same boat. Some are directly affected by COVID-19 and some by its by-product, the lockdown. Like elsewhere in Nepal the hard hit of the lockdown are the daily wagers, tea garden

workers and migrants. The government of Nepal is strictly following one door system in distribution of food supplies. Organizations, institutions and individuals are not allowed to distribute food provisions. However, the government encourages contribution to Prime Minister's Relief Fund of which citizens are skeptical. It is obvious that government alone cannot reach to the most affected and needy people. The corona virus killed humans, but it brought humanity active and alive. Organizations, institutions and individuals couldn't turn a blind eye and deaf ear to the plight and cries of the affected people. Different NGOs, institutions and individuals came forward to feed the daily wagers, stranded people and distribute food provisions to the most affected people in different parts of the country. Though in a small measure Nepal Jesuits too joined hands with people of goodwill, other Religious Congregations, alumni, lay collaborators and civil authorities in dry ration kits distribution and awareness campaign in different districts of Nepal.

We are often troubled, but not crushed; sometimes in doubt, but never in despair; there are many enemies, but we are never without a friend; and though badly hurt at times, we are not destroyed. (2 Cor. 4:8-9). With this spirit and immense gratitude to God Nepal Jesuits continue to be a silver lining amidst the pandemic.

Fr. Amrit Rai, S. J.  
Region Superior



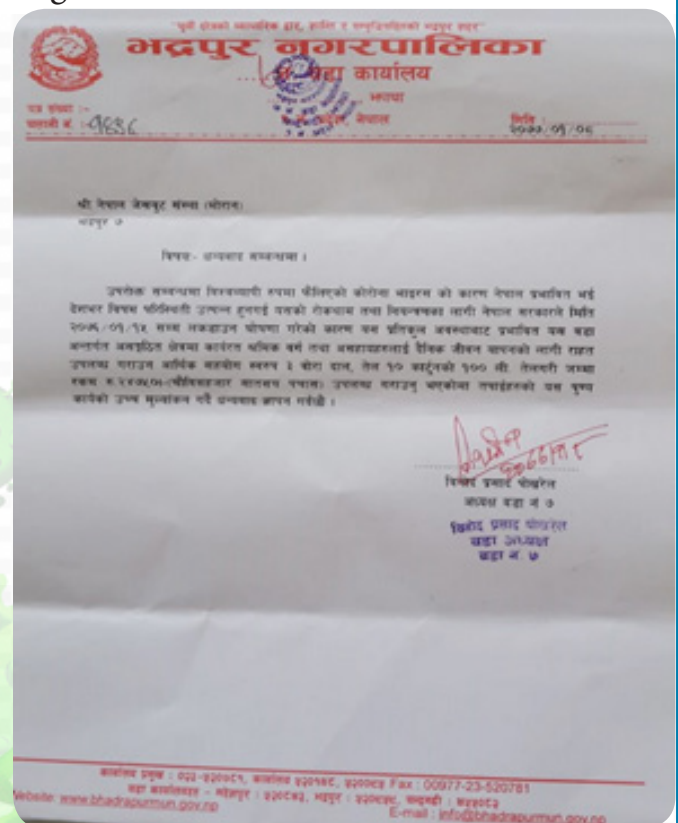


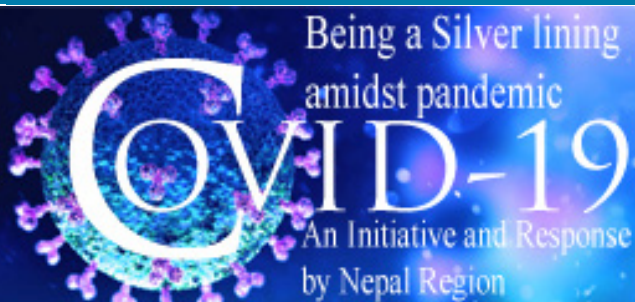
## Moran Memorial School Maheshpur/ St. Xavier's Parish Maheshpur, Jhapa

**T**ea garden workers work 6 days a week. They are paid every weekend and their food provisions do not last more than a week. Tea gardens in Jhapa districts are closed. Tea garden workers do not have work; therefore they are not paid. They are badly affected by the lockdown. Moran Memorial School Maheshpur and St. Xavier's Parish, Maheshpur distributed a package of 10 kg rice, 1 kg lentil, half liter cooking oil, 1 kg salt and a bar of washing soap per family for a week to 15 most needy families in Ward No. 6 and 7 under Bhadrapur Municipality. The following week additional 400 kg rice and 80 kg lentil and 100 liter cooking oil were distributed to 100 families in these two Wards.

In Mechi Nagar Municipality Ward No.6,

Satighatta tea garden a package of 12 kg rice, 1 kg lentil, half liter cooking oil and 1 kg salt per family for a week was distributed to 12 tea garden families.





## St. Xavier's School Deonia, Jhapa

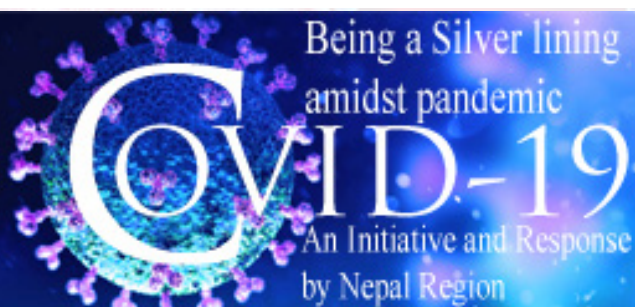
In Bhuttabari under Arjundhara Gaonpalika St. Xavier's Deonia distributed a package of 6 kg rice, 2 kg lentil, 1 liter cooking oil 2 kg wheat flour, 1 kg gram (chana), 1 kg salt and 2 bars of washing soap for a week to 10 tea garden families.

Likewise in Telgani a Santhali village under Birtamode Municipality a package of 6 kg rice, 2 kg



lentil, 1 liter cooking oil 2 kg wheat flour, 1 kg gram (chana), 1 kg salt and 2 bars of washing soap for a week was distributed to 21 families. Most of these people are daily wagers.

On top of dry ration kits St. Xavier's School Deonia donated NRS. 150,000/- to Birtamode Municipality COVID-19 Relief Fund.



## St. Xavier's School Godavari

Godavari Municipality invited organizations, institutions and individuals to share food provisions with the most affected people in the Municipality. Each Ward welcomed cash and kind from organizations, institutions and individuals. St. Xavier's School Godavari distributed a package of 25 kg rice, 10 kg lentil, 3 liter cooking oil, 1 kg salt and 5 bars of washing soap to 10 families for 20 days in Ward No. 3.



## St. Ignatius Parish Baniyatar, Kathmandu

**M**ost of the parishioners in St. Ignatius Parish Banyatar are internal migrants from Tipling, a remote village in Dhadhing district. Except a very few families, they live in rented rooms and are daily wagers. Lockdown foiled their at-



migrants from Tipling, a remote village in Dhadhing district. Ex-

tempt to go back to their village. Nepal Jesuit Society (Region) distributed rice 1255 kg, lentil 230 kg, cooking oil 60 pkt and salt 60 kg for a week to 90 families in Ward No. 3, 5, 8, 9, 11, and 26 under Kathmandu Municipality.



## Nepal Jesuit Society(Region)

rent, grow seasonal vegetables and sell. Due to lockdown their products can-

In Jhapa Gaonpalika, Ward No. 2 and 3, Sadakbari and Simalbari most of the Santhali families have land but the yield is very scanty. It doesn't last even for six month. Moreover, March and April are dry months. The lockdown is really hard for them. The Chairman of Ward No. 2 and 3 requested organizations, institutions and individuals to support the most needy families. In coordination with St. Xavier's School Sadakbari Nepal Jesuit Society distributed 1000 kg rice and 100 kg lentil to 100 families in these two Wards.

A large number of populations from different villages of Nepal migrate to Kathmandu



not reach to the market. Some of them get vocational training and get into carpentry, plumbing, etc, and some are in construction work. Industries, factories and construction work all are shut down. Their attempt to escape to their village

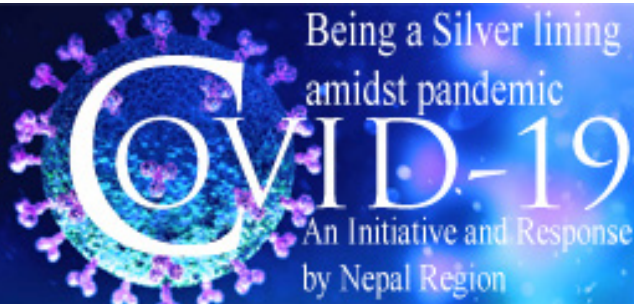


valley with different reasons and dreams. One of the migrant groups is Tamang from Dhadhing district. Tamang is one of the indigenous people of Nepal, engaged in agriculture. Some of them

take land in or around Kathmandu valley in

failed. Nepal Jesuit Society distributed 900 kg rice, 100 kg lentil, 50 liter cooking oil and 50 kg salt to 48 migrated families in Lubhu, Ward No. 6 under Mahalaxmi Municipality and 524 kg, 66 kg lentil, 38 liter cooking oil and 38 kg salt to 38 migrated families in Goldunga, Ward No. 5 under Kathmandu Municipality.

One of the most hard hit groups of lockdown is the differently abled people. In coordination with Bright Star Society that works with the visually impaired people Nepal Jesuit Society distributed 150 kg rice, 30 kg lentil, 30 liter cooking oil, 30 kg salt, 30 kg flattened rice, 30 kg gram (chana), 30 kg tea leaves, 30 kg sugar and 150 packet biscuits



## Nepal Jesuit Society(Region)



to 30 families of visually impaired people in Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Kavre district.

In Gurbhakot Municipality, Surkhet, West Nepal families displaced by flood are living in huts. They are daily wagers. They cannot come out in search of work due to lockdown. In coordination with Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Nepal Jesuit Society distributed a package of 10 kg rice, 2 kg lentil, 2 liter cooking oil, 2 bars of washing soap for a week to 45 displaced families.

Nepal Jesuit Society runs Mobile Clinic in 15 districts of Nepal in collaboration with different Women Religious Congregations. Sisters of Charity of Nazareth (SCN) and Sisters of Charity (SCCG) conducted awareness programmes in different Mobile Clinic Centers in Dailekh and Surkhet districts in West Nepal and in Dhadhing district.





## Godavari Alumni Association (GAA)

One of the problems faced by Red Cross Society in lockdown is shortage of blood. Willing donors cannot come out to donate blood. GAA organized 50 Emergency Door to Door Blood Donation Camp and collected 3200 pints of blood and donated to Red Cross Society. Likewise in the beginning there was shortage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the medical personnel. GAA donated 150 PPE sets to different hospitals in Kathmandu. It also distributed 300 masks to Nepal police and dry ration kits to 300 families of visually impaired and HIV positive.





## TABULAR PRESENTATION OF COVID-19 INITIATIVES TAKEN BY THE REGION INSTITUTIONS

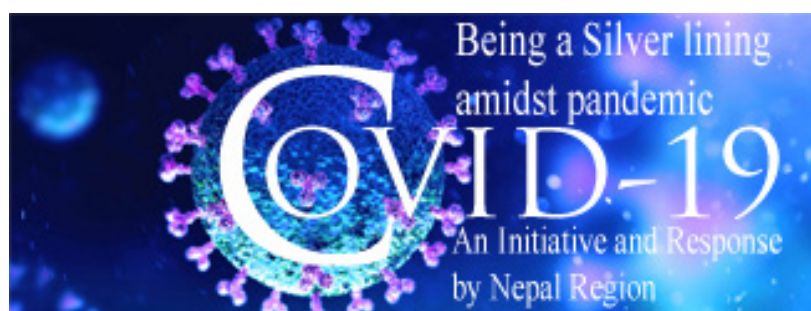
Institutions	Service provided	Volunteers Involved	Type of Beneficiaries	Beneficiaries	Location
Moran Memorial School & St. Xavier's Parish Maheshpur, Jhapa	Dry Ration Kits Rice, lentil, cooking oil, salt, soap	20	Tea garden workers, daily wagers and most marginalized group	127 families	Buddhkaran tea garden, Satighatta tea garden, Dhulabari
St. Xavier's School Deonia, Jhapa	Dry Ration Kits Rice, lentil, cooking oil, what flour, gram (chana), salt, soap.	15	Tea garden workers, daily wagers and most marginalized Santhali families	31 families	Buttabari tea garden, Khanal busty, Telgani village
	Cash donation	Birtamode Municipality			Birtamode, Jhapa district
St. Xavier's School Gadavari	Dry Ration Kits Rice, lentil, cooking oil, salt, soap	5	Most marginalized families	10 families	Godavari Municipality, Ward No 3
St. Ignatius Parish, Banyatar	Dry Ration Kits Rice, lentil, cooking oil, salt	5	Internal migrants	90 families	Banyatar, Tokha, Mehepi, Manamaiju, Goldunga



## TABULAR PRESENTATION OF COVID-19 INITIATIVES TAKEN BY GODAVARI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION [GAA]

Institution	Service provided	Volunteers Involved	Type of Beneficiaries	Beneficiaries	Location
Godavari Alumni Association	Dry Ration Kits Rice, lentil, cooking oil, sugar, tea leaves, flattened rice, salt	10	Daily wagers, visually impaired people, HIV Positive people	300 families	Kathmandu and Lalitpur Districts
	Organized 50 Emergency Door to Door Blood Donation Camp	8	Collected 3200 pints of blood and donated to Nepal Red Cross Society		Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Bhaktapur, Kavre and Dhading district

Institutions	Service provided	Volunteers Involved	Type of Beneficiaries	Beneficiaries	Location
Godavari Alumni Association	Masks	10	Distributed 2500 pieces of masks to Nepal police		Kathmandu
	Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	8	Donated 150 PPE set to different hospitals		Kathmandu



## TABULAR PRESENTATION OF COVID-19 INITIATIVES TAKEN BY THE REGION

Service provided	Volunteers Involved	Type of Beneficiaries	Beneficiaries	Location
Dry Ration Kits Rice and lentil	3 Jesuits from Gonzaga House	Daily wagers and most marginalized group	100 families	Sadakbari and Simalbari, Jhapa
Dry Ration Kits Rice, lentil, cooking oil, Salt.	5	Internal migrants	86 families	Lubhu, Mahalaxmi Municipality, Ward No. 6 and Goldunga, Kathmandu Municipality, Ward No. 5
Dry Ration Kits Rice, lentil, cooking oil, salt, flattened rice, gram (chana), tea leaves, sugar, biscuits	6	Visually impaired people	30 families	Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Kavre district.
Dry Ration Kits Rice, lentil, cooking oil, soap	5	Displaced families	45 families	Surkhet, Gurbhakot Municipality, West Nepal
Awareness Campaign	7	In collaboration with Sisters of Charity of Nazareth (SCN) and Sisters of Charity (SCCG) Awareness Campaign was organized and masks distributed in different Mobile Clinic Centers		Surkhet, Dailekh and Dhadhing district



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*Every Cloud  
has a  
silver lining*